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WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

October 2010 Tishrei/Heshvan 5771 Volume XXXV Number 2 FREE

Dr. Judea Perl keynote speaker at Federation Main Event

Avram Kluger, special to the WJN

Daniel Pearl came face-to-face with an incontrovertible hatred and declared "… I am Jewish…." His murder was a shocking event, magnified by the fact that the perpetrators used modern communication tools like the Internet to broadcast their heinous and shocking crime. From this horror and tragedy, Dr. Judea Pearl chose a path of building understanding on his son's legacy. He and his wife Ruth founded the Daniel Pearl Foundation in the memory of this brave journalist to further the ideals that inspired his life and work. Dr. Pearl has a life affirming and important message for everyone. Know who you are, be proud of your identity, and extend a hand in peace. In these difficult times, it is a critical message for us all to remember and strive for.

Dr. Pearl has reflected that his son found dignity, in his identity as a proud Jew, even in this darkest of moments. He has worked to strengthen Jewish pride and self-respect and leading to a stronger, more united Jewish people. The book *I am Jewish: Personal Reflections Inspired by the Last Words of Daniel Pearl*, co-edited by Daniel's parents, contains a series of essays by leading Jewish personalities answering a simple question: "When you say 'I am Jewish' what does it mean to you?" The range of perspectives provides insightful answers to the question of Jewish identity and how modern Jews define themselves.

Another tenet of Daniel's legacy that Dr. Pearl has focused on is strengthening interfaith understanding and dialogue. Muslims in western countries are exposed to democratic concepts of pluralism and human rights. Furthermore, the Muslim community is under pressure due to a distorted and intolerant post 9/11 image of Islam. The Jewish community is experienced at fighting defamation and discrimination. Dr. Pearl envisions a natural partnership with the Jewish community assisting Muslims struggling for dignity and social acceptance. Additionally, Muslims can help the Jewish community by speaking out, in religious terms against anti-Semitism, terrorism, incitement and Islamic fanaticism.

Dr. Judea Pearl

Since 2003 the Daniel Pearl dialogue for Muslim-Jewish understanding, featuring Akbar Ahmed and Judea Pearl, has conducted town-hall style dialogues between Muslims and Jews in cities in the United States, Canada and United Kingdom. The program was initiated in the belief that dialogue between Muslims and Jews is a necessary step toward easing world tension. It is Dr. Pearl's hope that an evolving partnership between western Muslims and Jews will slowly make its way to the Middle East and other regions.

On October 12, Judea Pearl will appear as the keynote speaker at the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's Main Event. The program will be held at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center. His topic is "Being Jewish, American and Western in the 21st Century." ■

For more information about the Main Event or to buy tickets to the event, contact Cindy Adams at 677-0100 or by email Cindy@jewishannarbor.org.

Jewish Book Festival returns to Ann Arbor November 1-14

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will hold its 23rd Annual Jewish Book Festival, November 1-14 at the JCC. Bernie Banet, Mimi Chapman, Fran Martin and Esther Ullman are the Book Festival chairs. The event is supported by the Fred and Ned Shure Endowment, as well as many local community organizations, businesses and individuals, including major gifts from Four Points Sheraton and Simply Scrumptious Catering. Many compelling and diverse authors are scheduled to speak during noontime Lunch and Learn presentations, evening events and on both Sundays. All author presentations are free and open to the community. Lunch may be purchased at the daily Lunch and Learn programs for $10 in advance or $12 at the door. The Lunch with the Author's event is $15.

Joan Nathan

Monday, November 1, 7:30 p.m. OPENING NIGHT

Joan Nathan—*Quiches, Kugels and Couscous*

Moderated by Ari Weinzweig, co-founder of Zingerman's Deli

What is Jewish cooking in France? In a journey that was a labor of love, Joan Nathan traveled the country to discover the answer and, along the way, unearthed a treasure trove of recipes and the often moving stories behind them. Nathan takes us into kitchens in Paris, Alsace, and the Loire Valley; she visits the bustling Belleville market in Little Tunis in Paris; she breaks bread with Jewish families around the observation of the Sabbath and the celebration of special holidays. All across France, she finds that Jewish cooking is more alive than ever: traditional dishes are honored, yet have acquired a certain French finesse.

Joan Nathan, a University of Michigan alum, is the author of ten cookbooks including *Jewish Cooking in America*, which won both the James Beard Award and the IACP / Julia Child Cookbook of the Year Award in 1994. She is a regular contributor to *The New York Times* and *Tablet Magazine*, among other publications. She is the mother of three grown children and lives with her husband in Washington, D.C.

Sponsored by Temple Beth Emeth . Dessert reception sponsored by Simply Scrumptious Catering.

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A²SO Afternoon Delights concerts at JCC

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

Maestro Arie Lipsky will return to the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor on Wednesday, October 20, for the October Afternoon Delights concert. The Afternoon Delights concerts, formerly known as Matinée Musicales, are a series of classical music concerts offered at the JCC through the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Their purpose is to provide an opportunity for citizens to enjoy top-quality professional music in an intimate setting, at an affordable price, at a mid-day time and convenient location.

The audiences, usually numbering well over 100 in attendance, come to the concerts not only for the beautiful music but also for the entertaining commentary on the music provided by the engaging Lipsky.

The concert will begin at 1:30 p.m.; seating and refreshments are available at 1 p.m. Tickets are $8 for a single concert, $23 for a small series of three concerts and $35 for the entire series of five concerts and may be purchased at the door or by contacting the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra at 994-4801. The rest of the season will include pianist Stephanie Weaver on November 20, Arie and Friends on April 27, 2011, and violinist Barbara Sturgis-Everett on May 25, 2011. For more information, contact Merrill Poliner at merrill@jfsannarbor.org or 971-0990. ■

Jewish Book Festival details on page 4

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ICPJ 36th Annual CROP Hunger Walk

Jessica Sitek, special to the WJN

For the 36th year in a row, the Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice will host the CROP Hunger Walk, a unique interfaith event that unites people of all walks of life to end hunger one step at a time.

CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Local congregations, organizations, school and community groups, individuals, and families are all welcome to participate in walking one mile or six miles to raise funds for local and global hunger prevention and relief.

Last year, CROP walkers in the Washtenaw/Ann Arbor walk raised over $56,000. This year, organizers are aiming even higher to respond to increased need.

Seventy-five percent of the funds raised go to support worldwide relief and development efforts by Church World Service, or they may go to other religious or development agencies that sponsors choose. The other 25 percent directly supports local groups confronting hunger in their own communities. The CROP Hunger Walk will fund the following local organizations this year: L.O.V.E. thy Neighbor (FUMC), SOS Community Crisis Center, Avalon Housing, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Peace Neighborhood Center, Aid in Milan, Catholic Social Services, Packard Health, Community Action Network, St. Andrew's Breakfast Program, Hope Clinic, Emmanuel House, and Northfield Human Services.

The 36th Annual Washtenaw/Ann Arbor CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday, October 10. Registration is at 1 p.m. and the walk will begin at 2 p.m. Walkers will start from Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 West Liberty Street. A post-walk meal will be served back at Zion Lutheran Church.

Register at www.icpj.net. For more information, contact Jessica Sitek, CROP Walk co-coordinator, at jessicasitek@gmail.com or 663-1870. ■

Larry Smith to receive Federation award at Main Event

David Shtulman, special to the WJN

Larry Smith has been a formative force in the growth of the Ann Arbor Jewish community. The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor will recognize his contributions with the presentation of the Spirit of the Federation Award at the 10th Annual Main Event on October 12, at the Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center.

Smith has been active on the national Jewish scene, serving on the boards of the Council of Jewish Federations, predecessor organization to the United Jewish Communities, the Hillel Foundation for Jewish Campus Life and as a consultant to numerous Federations around the country. He brought the insights and best practices of those Jewish communities back to Ann Arbor and added a sophistication of Jewish communal organization that many communities our size did not have. His impact is apparent in the institutions enjoyed in Ann Arbor today.

Smith was one of the first people in Ann Arbor to recognize that in order to grow this Jewish community both institutions and the means to support those institutions are needed. He was a driving force to establish a Jewish Community Center when many thought the community was too small to need one and he served as its first president from 1984–1989. Today, as home to the Jewish Federation, Hebrew Day School, the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, the Reconstructionist Havurah and Jewish Cultural Society, as well as sponsor of many of the community's signature programs, the value of a JCC in a community this size is no longer questioned.

Smith served as Federation annual campaign chair and as Federation president from 1992–1994. He helped establish the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Ann Arbor. He continues to serve as a Federation board member and has mentored a succession of Federation executives and staf .

Professionally, Smith, is a recognized expert in the field of college retention and student success and is the author of several books and articles in the field. He served as Vice President for University Marketing and Student Affairs at Eastern Michigan University from 1975–2000, where he was also awarded an honorary doctorate in 1999. In May of this year, he was recognized by EMU with the Dr. John W. Porter Award for distinguished service.

Larry Smith

Currently, Smith is president of Dixboro Ventures, an organizational consulting firm, and cofounder/principle of New Campus Dynamics, a consulting organization focused on higher education. ■

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The deadline for the November issue of the *Washtenaw Jewish News*, is Thursday, October 7.
Publication date: Wednesday, November 24
Extra copies of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* are available at locations throughout Washtenaw County.

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Israeli Jazz pianist stays close to his roots

Ellie Falaris Ganelin, special to the WJN

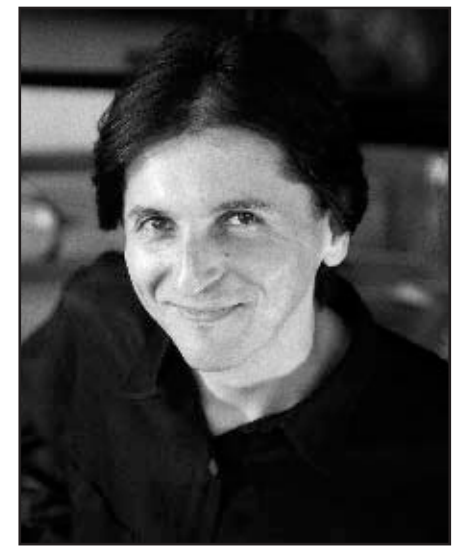
The music of Los Angeles-based pianist Tamir Hendelman draws from a number of influences—straight-ahead jazz, blues, classical and Brazilian music—but he stays true to his Israeli roots too. He will perform at the Kerrytown Concert House on Friday, October 15 at 8 p.m. Michigan jazz all-stars Paul Keller and Sean Dobbins will join him in this concert, which celebrates the release of Hendelman's newest CD Destinations on Resonance Records.

Hendelman had an eclectic music upbringing in Tel Aviv: starting on electric organ at age 6, he was drawn equally to classical music, jazz and the melodious popular Israeli folk songs he heard at home and on the radio. The spark for his love of jazz ignited after hearing concerts of American artists that came to town such as Bobby McFerrin and Chick Corea. At age 12, Hendelman continued his training in Los Angeles, winning national competitions and travelling to Japan to perform by the age of 15. Piano and composition studies at Tanglewood Institute and Eastman School of Music followed.

Since then, Hendelman has enjoyed a kaleidoscopic music career, touring the United States, Europe and Asia. He has performed with the Jeff Hamilton Trio, as well as the Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra, with which he recorded for Diana Krall, Gladys Knight and John Pizzarelli. He is also featured on Natalie Cole's Grammy-winning Still Unforgettable and Barbara Streisand's Love Is The Answer and One Night Only. His two CDs, Playground (2008) and Destinations (2010) have both been critically acclaimed, reaching #3 and #1 on the US Jazzweek charts.

Throughout his musical journey, Hendelman has reached to his Israeli heritage. He has arranged and played in Diaspora, a jazz ensemble that draws from Jewish music from around the world. He has also collaborated with Israeli violinist Nimrod Nol on a tribute to Jewish and Irish music reflecting their heritage and musical loves. This time around, his roots have led to two original compositions off his newest release Destinations. The lyrical "Babushka," is a tribute to his grandmothers, both originally from Poland and both named Zipora (bird). Memories of growing up with his grandmother singing sing opera and Jewish songs inspired this composition.

Hendelman's "Israeli Waltz" is a tribute to his homeland, the beauty of its landscape and warmth of the people. The song was inspired by a visit he took with his wife to northern Israel. After getting lost on an evening hike, they encountered the hospitality of strangers who welcomed them to their Sukkot feast and made them feel as family. It was this culture of warmth and generosity that served as inspiration for the lyrical and whimsical "Israeli Waltz." "You hear many things in the news about Israel, but you have to visit to know the warmth and generosity of spirit of the people." Hendelman said.



Tamir Hendelman

Hendelman says of his latest CD, "*Destinations* is an exploration of my love for jazz, of the many musical and geographical places I've traveled, and of my Jewish and Israeli heritage."

For ticket information, visit www.kerrytownconcerthouse.com or call 769-2999. Kerrytown Concert House is located at 415 North 4th Avenue. ■

Community Leadership breakfast series considers Ann Arbor's past, present and future

Mira Sussman, special to the WJN

Why, despite Ann Arbor's small size and relatively small Jewish population, has it developed such a wide range of organizations, synagogue infrastructures and sophisticated Jewish members? What does it mean to be part of a Jewish community? And what will we mean by "Jewish community" in the next century?

These, questions, and many like them, were the impetus for a three-part series of conversations on the theme of "Impulses of Community." These conversations are geared towards the leadership of Ann Arbor's Jewish community—the professionals who work at the various synagogues, agencies and organizations, and the people who serve on these organizations' boards and committees.

The first event in the Jewish Communal Leadership Breakfast Series will focus on the past—Why did the American, as well as Ann Arbor's, Jewish community come to be organized as it did? What needs were being met? "We can learn from history," explains Deborah Dash Moore, director of the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, "since Jewish history and American history intertwine. Both let us see how specific challenges of the moment intersect with desires to innovate and commitments to transform traditions into living realities."

The second event will focus on the present—Do the same impulses for community that shaped us still exist? What and how have things changed? "As society, and Jewish society in particular, changes over time, it is crucial that all Jewish organizations and institutions be able to adapt in order to stay relevant," says David Shtulman, executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor. "Communal paradigms that were established in the 1950s don't necessarily still speak to people in 2010. The more successful we are at creating paradigms for today will determine how successful our community will be tomorrow. It is a challenge that faces every Jewish organization and that is why this program is aimed at our entire community leadership."

Deborah Dash Moore

David Shtulman

The third breakfast will focus on the future—how do we keep the concept of community relevant? How will we respond to new definitions of community? How can we help prepare and shape the future?

Each event in the series will include a panel of presenters comprised of both professionals currently or previously working within the Jewish community as well as lay leaders.

The Jewish Communal Leadership Breakfast Series is co-sponsored by the Jewish Federation and JPros (Jewish Professionals of Greater Ann Arbor), in collaboration with the Frankel Center and the Jewish Communal Leadership Program at the University of Michigan's School of Social Work. ■

For more information, contact Mira Sussman at mira@jfsannarbor.org.

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
HATCHER
GRADUATE
LIBRARY

Gallery

Oct. 1-Nov. 30
Exhibit: *U-M and the Peace Corps: It All Started Here*

Tues., Oct. 5th
7:00-8:30 pm
John Fedynsky, author of *Michigan's County Courthouses*, presented by the U-M Press

Wed., Oct. 6th
7:00-8:30 pm
***Working Words**: Punching the Clock and Kicking Out the Jams*, anthology of working class literature

Thurs., Oct. 7th
7:00-8:30 pm
Charlie Frank, Candymaker, Zingerman's Candy Manufactory, "Candy and Passion–A Sweet Life"

Mon., Oct. 11th
7:00-8:30 pm
Peace Corps Documentary: *A Passing of the Torch*, the grass roots effort led by U-M students to create the Peace Corps

Wed., Oct. 13th
7:00-9:00 pm
Paul Theroux, "How the Peace Corps Changed My Life"

Thurs., Oct. 14th
5:30-7:00 pm
Adonis, author and one of the Arab world's greatest living poets

Thurs., Oct. 14th
8:30-10:00 pm
Tom Hayden, "The Importance of Community Organizing: From the Peace Corps to Barack Obama"

Tues., Oct. 26th
5:30-7:00 pm
Stephen Forrest, U-M Vice President, "Living the Dream: How to Solar Power Your House to Save the World"

Parking is available at
650 S. Forest
(public parking structure)

M Library
913 S. University Avenue

All events are free and open to the public. For more information about these events, and to see a complete listing of events, go to:

www.lib.umich.edu/gallery/events

Jewish Book Festival

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Tuesday, November 2, noon
TIKKUN OLAM EVENT

Marilyn Berger—*This is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes*

Bring 2 cans of food which will be donated to Food Gatherers. *This is a Soul: The Mission of Rick Hodes* is the story of a completely selfless man, Rick Hodes, who not only treats the sick, but has taken some twenty children into his own home, nurturing and educating them. Rick's journey-from a childhood in an American suburb to a land of famine, to refugee camps following the Rwanda genocide, to centers for displaced persons in Kosovo, to Mother Theresa's mission in Addis Ababa, is a tale of compassion and altruism rarely seen in this world. Marilyn Berger went to Africa to write about Dr. Hodes, but while there, she became involved with the story. When she came upon a small, deformed, and malnourished boy begging on the street, she recognized immediately that he had the exact disease Rick could cure. The boy's story— intertwined with Rick's, and Marilyn's as well—is unforgettable in its pathos and subtle humor.

Marilyn Berger

Berger has been a journalist for more than forty years. She worked for *Newsday, The Washington Post, NBC* and public television where she is the moderator of *The Advocates*, a news anchor and presented a five-part interview of Lillian Hellman. She is currently a contributing writer to the *New York Times.*

Sponsored by: Beth Israel Congregation; Joan Lowenstein and Jonathan Trobe; and Myrna and Newell Miller.

Tuesday, November 2, 7:30 p.m.

Andrei Markovits and Lars Rensmann—*Gaming the World: How Sports are Reshaping Global Politics and Culture*

Sports Matter. This is self-evident to anyone who lives and dies according to the records of the Yankees, the Chicago Bulls, or Manchester United (to name but a few lightning rod teams), but what may not be quite as clear is how much sports matter on the global stage. Andrei Markovits and Lars Rensmann draw back the curtain on global sports arguing that sports and its superstar players are "powerful force(s) of political and cultural change around the globe."

Andrei Markovits

Andrei Markovits is currently the Arthur F. Thurnau Professor and the Karl W. Deutsch Collegiate Professor of Comparative Politics and German Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He is the author and editor of many books, scholarly articles, conference papers, book reviews and newspaper contributions in English and many foreign languages on topics as varied as German and Austrian politics, anti-Semitism, anti-Americanism, social democracy, social movements, the European right and the European left.

Lars Rensmann, DPhil, DAAD Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science, came to Ann Arbor in the fall of 2006. He teaches in the areas of modern political theory, European integration and European comparative politics, and German politics. Rensmann is the author and editor of six books and has published widely on political theory and German and European politics in journals. He holds a doctoral with distinction from the Department of Political and Social Sciences at the Free University of Berlin. He is also affiliate professor at the University of Haifa and permanent fellow at the Moses Mendelssohn Center, University of Potsdam. He also held several other previous research and teaching appointments.

Lars Rensmann

Sponsored by Heather and Stuart Dombey; Mary and Art Schuman; Joseph Speigel; and Dempsey Inc.

Wednesday, November 3, 7:30 p.m.

Martin Fletcher—Walking Israel: The Personal Search for the Soul of a Nation

With its dense history of endless conflict and biblical events, Israel's coastline is by far the most interesting hundred miles in the world. Martin Fletcher, long-time NBC bureau chief in Tel Aviv, has seen war, famine, killings and tragedy in his nearly four decades as a highly respected war correspondent and bureau chief. In 2008, he took on a different assignment—a personal one—that changed the outlook of this veteran newsman in a way he never saw coming. Instead of walking into a war zone, Fletcher walked into the soul of a nation. In his beautiful and touching new book, *Walking Israel*, Fletcher discovers the complexities of Middle Eastern life, and finds a little of himself, too.

Martin Fletcher

Fletcher began his Tel Aviv assignment in 1982 and took on the additional role of bureau chief in November 1990. He has received five Emmy awards for his work on the first Palestinian uprising, the second Palestinian uprising, Rwanda, Kosovo and trauma medicine in Israel. He has received numerous other awards including the television Pulitzer, the DuPont from Columbia University, five Overseas Press Club awards, several Edward R. Murrow awards, a Hugo gold medal for a documentary on Israel which he shared with other NBC staffers, and an award from the Royal Society of Television in Britain.

Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.

Friday, November 5
IT'S GREAT TO BE A GRANDPARENT DAY

Linda Grekin and Laura Pershin Raynor

Linda Grekin

Laura Pershin Raynor

9–10 a.m.: Light continental breakfast and workshop with Linda Grekin, teacher, children's librarian and ECC grandparent. Linda will work with adults on how to be great communicators with children through literacy.

10–11a.m.: ECC Preschoolers will be brought to this lounge and will be engaged by Laura Pershin Raynor.

11 a.m.: Shabbat celebration.

Sponsored by Sharon and Chuck Newman, PNC Bank and the JCC's Early Childhood Center.

Sunday, November 7, 10 a.m.
BAGELS AND BOOKS

Kader Konuk—*East West Mimesis: Auerbach in Turkey*

East West Mimesis follows the plight of German-Jewish humanists who escaped Nazi persecution by seeking exile in a Muslim-dominated society. Kader Konuk asks why philologists like Erich Auerbach found humanism at home in Istanbul at the very moment it was banished from Europe. She challenges the notion of exile as synonymous with intellectual isolation and shows the reciprocal effects of German émigrés on Turkey's humanist reform movement. By making literary critical concepts productive for our understanding of Turkish cultural history, the book provides a new approach to the study of East-West relations.

Kader Kanuk

Central to the book is Erich Auerbach's *Mimesis: The Representation of Reality in Western Literature*, written in Istanbul after he fled Germany in 1936. Konuk draws on some of Auerbach's key concepts—figura as a way of conceptualizing history and mimesis as a means of representing reality—to show how Istanbul shaped Mimesis and to understand Turkey's humanist reform movement as a type of cultural mimesis.

Konuk is associate professor of German Studies and Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan. Trained as a comparatist in German, Turkish, and English literature, Konuk's research is situated at the disciplinary nexus between literary criticism, cultural studies, and cultural history.

Sponsored by Esther Ullman and Morley Witus; and the Turkish Cultural Foundation.

Sunday, November 7
SPONSOR NIGHT-COMEDY CAFE

6–6:30 p.m.: Enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres, meet the author and attend book signing

6:30–7:30 p.m.: Sponsor Reception

7:30–8:30 p.m.: Author Presentation (Free and Open to the Public)—Sam Hoffman, *Old Jews Telling Jokes*

Schtick happens. For five thousand years, God's chosen people have cornered the market on knee-slappers, zingers, and knock-knock jokes. *Now Old Jews Telling Jokes* mines mothers, fathers, *bubbies*, and *zaydes* for comic gelt. What we get are jokes that are funnier than a pie in the *punim*. With Borscht Belt gags from Brooklyn to Bel Air to Boca, *Old Jews Telling Jok*es is like chicken soup for your funny bone. An intelligent yet hysterically funny celebration of Jewish language and culture based on the very popular website *Old Jews Telling Jokes*, this book features hilarious, irreverent, and sometimes bawdy jokes told by "old Jews" including Ed Koch and fascinating stories behind both the jokes and the tellers.

Sam Hoffman

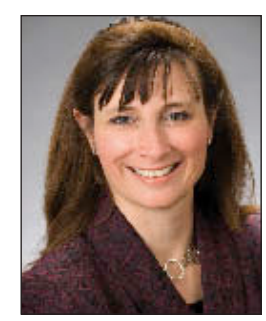
During a twenty-year career in the New York film industry, Sam Hoffman has produced, directed or assistant-directed numerous films, shorts, second units and commercials including: *The Royal Tenenbaums, School of Rock, The Producers Musical, Donnie Brasco, Dead Man Walking* and *Groundhog Day*. In January of 2009, Hoffman partnered with Jetpack Media to launch OldJewsTellingJokes.com, a website devoted to video portraits of *Old Jews Telling Jokes*. Hoffman lives in New York City with his wife and two children.

Sponsored by Carol and Herb Amster; Carol and Steve Dworkin; Pamela and Stephen Landau; Jill and David Scheibel; and the Jewish Cultural Society.

Monday, November 8, noon

Erica Brown—*Confronting Scandal: How Jews Can Respond When Jews Do Bad Things*

Madoff. Spitzer. Abramoff. This is the first time in Jewish history that a former prime minister and a president of Israel have been convicted of crime. Why are so many high-profile Jews in the media for the wrong reasons? How do we manage collective discomfort and shame? How do we restore honor and dignity to our community by raising the ethical bar and adherence to it? *Confronting Scandal* looks back in Jewish history and forward in time to think about how we manage shame by association, how we air our dirty laundry and how we return to a higher purpose using Jewish texts, contemporary psychology and old-fashioned common sense.



Erica Brown

Jewish Book Festival

Dr. Erica Brown is a Jewish educator and writer, winner of the Avi Chai Award and the 2009 Covenant Award for her innovative work in Jewish education. She was a Jerusalem Fellow and is a faculty member of the Wexner Foundation and is the author of *Inspired Jewish Leadership*, a National Jewish Book Award finalist, *Spiritual Boredom* and co-author of *The Case for Jewish People*. She works extensively with Jewish Federations and Jewish institutions across the country, running workshops on leadership and Jewish values.

Sponsored by Harlene and Henry Appelman.

Monday, November 8, 7:30 p.m. BOOK CLUB NIGHT

Daniel Levin—*The Last Ember*

Dessert Reception, $5; Dessert Reception and Book Package, $15

Author presentation alone is free and open to the community.

The Last Ember is a pulse-pounding race to locate the menorah of Herod's Temple. With its immense symbolic ties to Judaism, Christianity and Islam, it is an artifact of unimaginable power, one for which many have hunted-and even killed-in their attempts to obtain. The search for this priceless artifact stolen from the Second Temple in Jerusalem becomes a race against time, terrorism, politics, and the past. This fantastic story takes readers on a thrill ride around the world to confront not only history's fragility, but also its resilience.

Daniel Levin

Daniel Levin earned his bachelor's degree in Roman and Greek civilizations from the University of Michigan. He graduated from Harvard Law School with honors and clerked for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel. He was a visiting scholar at the American Academy in Rome in 2004 and has practiced international law in New York City, where he is currently writing his next novel.

Sponsored by Fran and Irwin Martin.

Tuesday, November 9, noon KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION DAY

Michael Hirsh—*The Liberators*

Based on extensive interviews with WWII veterans and rich with powerful, never-before-published eyewitness accounts, *The Liberators* puts the reader alongside the brave young U.S. soldiers, from their final march across Germany to V-E Day and beyond. More than just an in-depth account of the liberation, though, this book reveals how deeply these young men were impacted by what they saw, their struggles with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder long before it was recognized as a disorder, and how this life-altering experience has stayed with them to this very day.

Michael Hirsh

Michael Hirsh is a Vietnam combat veteran and the author of three previous military books, as well as the co-author (with Michael Schiavo) of the *New York Times* bestseller *Terri: The Truth*. During a 40-year career in broadcasting, he produced documentaries and specials for PBS, CBS, ABC, and HBO, receiving multiple awards, including the Peabody.

Sponsored by Naomi and Theodore Harrison; and Hiller's Market.

Tuesday, November, 7:30 p.m. Film Showing at the JCC.

***No. 4 Street of Our Lady*, the acclaimed film from the 2010 Ann Arbor Jewish Film Festival**

This film tells the remarkable, yet little-known story of Francisca Halamajowa, a Polish-Catholic woman who rescued 16 of her Jewish neighbors during the Holocaust, while passing herself off as a Nazi sympathizer. On the eve of World War II, more than 6,000 Jews lived in Sokal, a small town in Eastern Poland, now part of Ukraine. By the end of the war, only about 30 had survived, half of them rescued by Halamajowa. For close to two years, she hid her Jewish neighbors in her tiny home and cooked and cared for them, right under the noses of German troops camped on her property as well as hostile neighbors. Two families were hidden in the hayloft of her pigsty, and one family in a hole dug under her kitchen floor. In the final months of the war, she also provided shelter to a German soldier who had defected, an act that nearly led to her execution. Even among the small minority of Poles who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust, Halamajowa's is by all accounts an unusual story. Tickets are $10 each.

Francisca Halamajowa

Sponsored by Carolyn and Larry Hiss.

Wednesday, November 10, noon LUNCH WITH THE AUTHORS

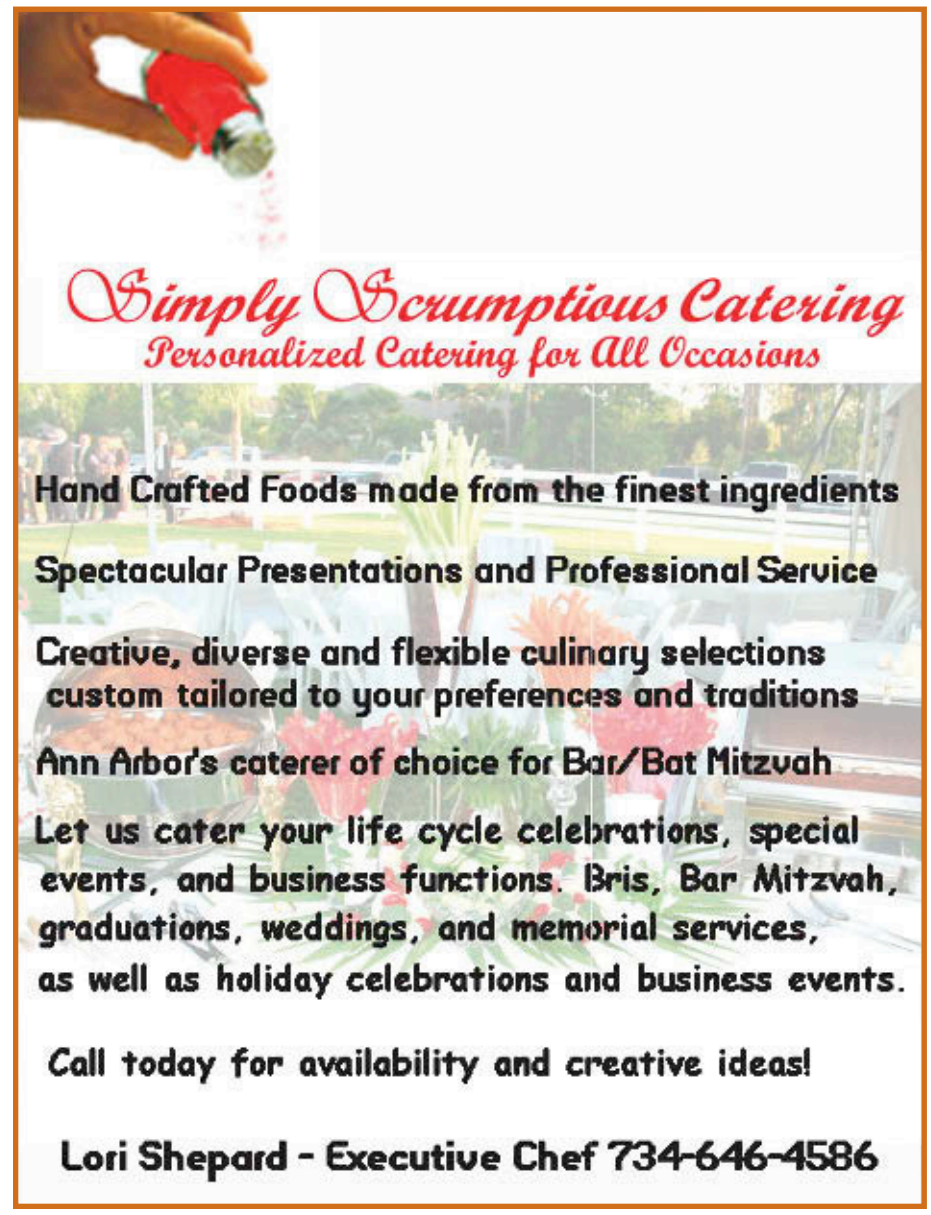
Lunch- $15

Sharon Pomerantz—*Rich Boy*

Ten years in the making, *Rich Boy* is a sweeping novel of class, sexual rebellion, money and love. Pomerantz's debut novel chronicles one man's journey from the blue-collar suburbs of 1950s Philadelphia to the high-society of 1980s New York. Robert Vishniak grows up in a working-class Jewish neighborhood, often at odds with his frugal, distant mother. Moving forward in time, Pomerantz chronicles Robert's varied adventures as he copes with the panoramic complexities and rewards of rebellion, self-renewal, and heartache. Over the course of four decades, Robert becomes entrenched in the upper echelon of Manhattan's elite,

Sharon Pomerantz

continued on page 6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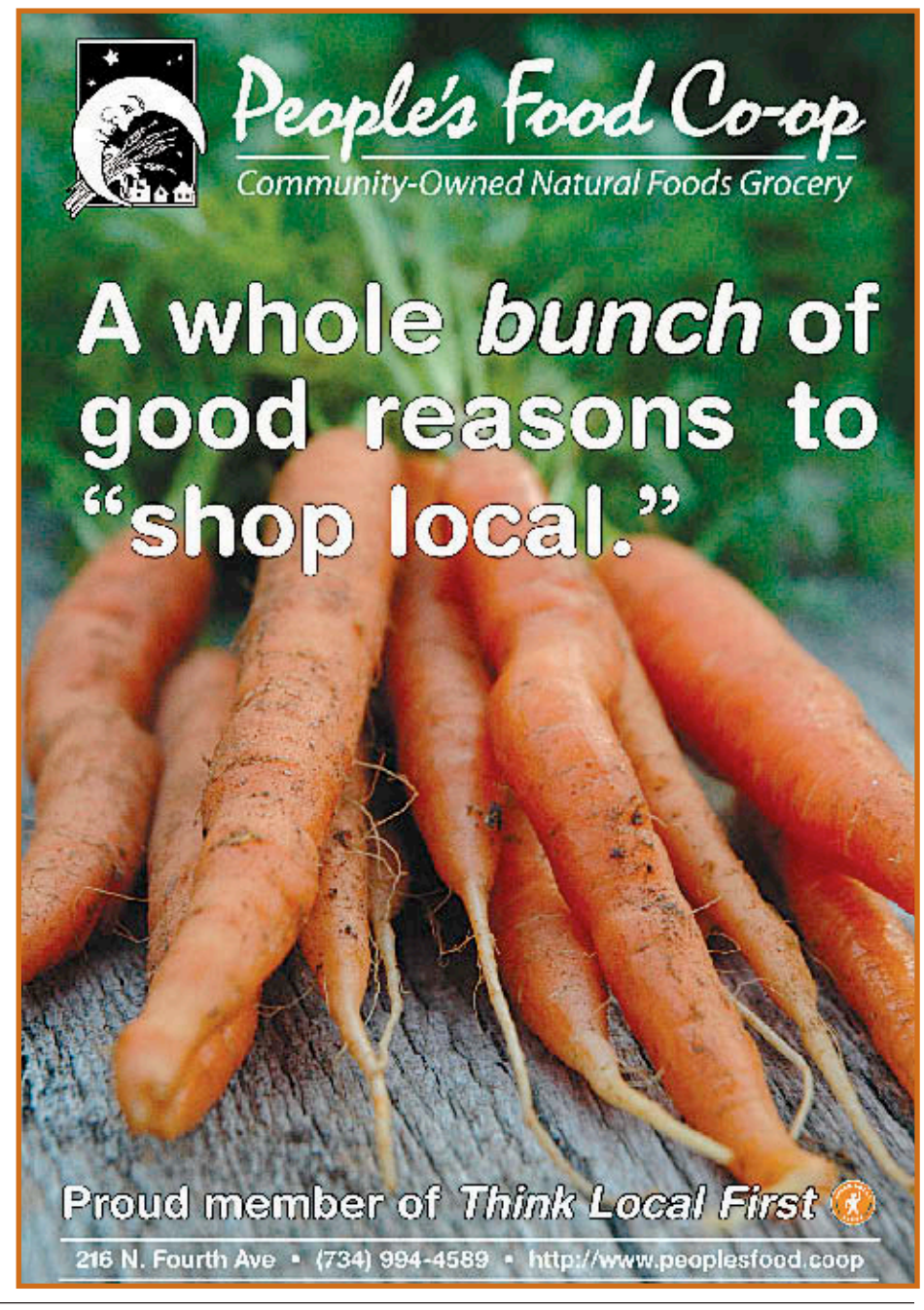
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The Jean & Samuel Frankel Center for Judaic Studies
October Events

Wednesday, Oct. 6 * 4 pm
202 S. Thayer St, Room 2022
Before and After Babel: Linguistic Exceptionalism and Pluralism in Early Rabbinic Literature and Jewish Antiquity
Steven Fraade, Yale University

Thursday, Oct. 7 * 12 pm
200 Fletcher St, Alumni Center
Language Use and Choice Among Jews in Eastern Europe, 1860-1939
Kalman Weiser, York University

Monday, Oct. 11 * 12:30 pm
202 S. Thayer St, Room 2022
From Maimonides to Microsoft: The Jewish Law of Copyright Since the Birth of Print
Neal Netanel, UCLA

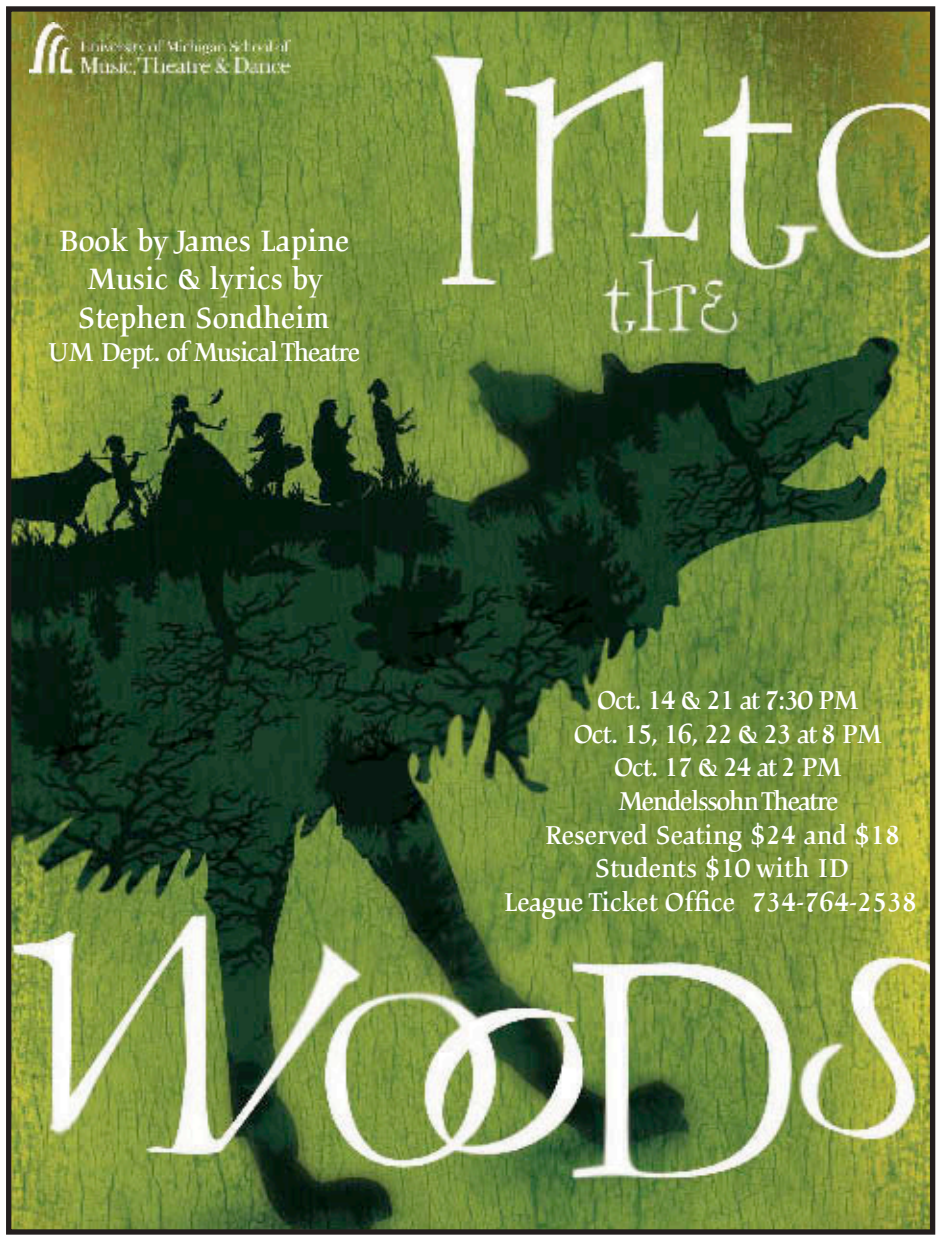
Wednesday, Oct. 13 * 4 pm
202 S. Thayer St, Room 2022
Jews and Muslims in Modern France: A Century of Coexistence and Conflict
Ethan Katz,
University of Cincinnati

Monday, Oct. 25 * 4 pm
International Institute,
Room 1636
Auschwitz in the 21st Century
Piotr Cywiński, Director
Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum

Tuesday, Oct. 26 * 4 pm
202 S. Thayer St, Room 2022
The Bitter Taste of Success: Gendered Politics in Israel
Sarai Aharoni,
Bar-Ilan University

Thursday, Oct. 28 * 12 pm
200 Fletcher St, Alumni Center
Communism, Publishing, and Paths to Polishness in Postwar Warsaw: A Case Study
Karen Auerbach,
University of Southampton

All events are free and open to the public.
Visit www.lsa.umich.edu/judaic for a complete list of upcoming lectures.


University of Michigan School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Into the Woods
Book by James Lapine
Music & lyrics by
Stephen Sondheim
UM Dept. of Musical Theatre
Oct. 14 & 21 at 7:30 PM
Oct. 15, 16, 22 & 23 at 8 PM
Oct. 17 & 24 at 2 PM
Mendelssohn Theatre
Reserved Seating $24 and $18
Students $10 with ID
League Ticket Office 734-764-2538

Jewish Book Festival

continued from page 5

ultimately succeeding as a real-estate lawyer and marrying into a family of old money. Pomerantz's sweeping tale captures the intimate truths and hypocrisies of class, identity, and one man's quintessential American experience.

Pomerantz's short fiction has appeared in numerous literary journals, and her story *Ghost Knife* was included in *The Best American Short Stories 2001*. As a non-fiction writer, Pomerantz contributes regularly to numerous publications. She currently teaches writing at the University of Michigan. This is her first novel.

Jessica Jiji—*Sweet Dates of Basra*

Inspired by the author's family's experiences, *Sweet Dates of Basra* pays tribute to Jewish culture that thrived in Babylon while presaging its inevitable demise. When two Iraqi families—one Jewish and one Muslim—break through a wall in their adjoining courtyard, Shafiq and Omar begin passing notes through the hole, connecting one another as best friends. As they grow up under the shadow of WWII and try to find their way, they begin to feel the effects of the shifting sands around them and the unrest that lays beneath the surface. This redemptive story of an unlikely friendship and a star-crossed love amidst two converging worlds serves as a powerful reminder that no walls can confine the human spirit.

Jessica Jiji

Jessica Jiji currently works as a speechwriter for the United Nations. Her first novel, *Diamonds Take Forever*, won acclaim for its positive portrayal of Arabic-Jewish culture. She also coauthored, with Paul Grossman, three feature-length screenplays.

Katherine Rosman—*If You Knew Suzy: A Mother, a Daughter, a Reporter's Notebook*

Katherine Rosman's sixty-year-old mother Suzy died of lung cancer and Katherine and her sister Lizzie struggled to balance the agony of losing their mother and the relief that their mother was no longer suffering. Driven by grief and haunted by the idea that she would only remember her mother as a cancer victim, Rosman began digging into Suzy's past, using her professional acumen to research an extremely personal subject: Who was Suzy apart from her roles as wife and mother? And while it explores the universal realities of care-giving for a terminally ill patient and coping with the death of a loved one, what emerges in the resulting memoir is a very funny and heartrending celebration of a strong, vibrant, vital woman.

Katherine Rosman

Katherine Rosman is a staff reporter for the *Wall Street Journal* who writes about popular culture. Her work has also appeared in *The New Yorker, The New York Times* and *Elle*. A native of Michigan and a graduate of the University of Michigan, she lives in New York with her husband and two young children.

Sponsored by Leslie and Norman Bash; Bobbie and Myron Levine; Lauren and Eric Metzendorf; and Molnar's Roofing.

Wednesday, November 10 7:30 p.m.

Ari Weinzweig—*Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading Part 1: A Lapsed Anarchist's Approach to Building a Great Business*

The new series, *Zingerman's Guide to Good Leading*, aims to define a new kind of workplace in the 21st century. *Part 1: A Lapsed Anarchist's Approach to Building a Great Business*, reveals some the "secrets" and early history of Zingerman's success. The book outlines 18 important ideas including: the power of a well-written and communicated organizational vision, the real purpose of a mission statement, and the benefits reaped from developing a culture of positive appreciation. This book explains why treating individuals with respect and helping them to pursue their dreams and passions actively engages a successful team and shows how a business with the words "love" and "care" in the mission statement can achieve both profitability and community engagement while striving "to enrich as many lives as we possibly can."

Ari Weinzweig moved to Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan. Along with his partner Paul Saginaw, Weinzweig started Zingerman's Delicatessen in 1982 with a $20,000 bank loan, a staff of two, a small selection of great-tasting specialty foods and a relatively short sandwich menu. The Zingerman's Community of Businesses currently includes seven businesses. Weinzweig and Saginaw were instrumental in the founding of Food Gatherers, a perishable food rescue program. In 1995, Weinzweig and Saginaw received the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's first Humanitarian Award for their community contributions. Weinzweig is the writer of the Zingerman's Newsletter and he is the author of several books.

Ari Weinzweig

Sponsored by Patti Aaron and Gale; and Martin Stolzenberg.

Thursday, November 11, noon

Jonathan Schneer—*The Balfour Declaration: The Origins of the Arab-Israeli Conflict*

Issued in London in 1917, the Balfour Declaration was one of the key documents of the twentieth century. It committed Britain to supporting the establishment in Palestine of "a National Home for the Jewish people," and its reverberations continue to be felt to this day. Now the entire fascinating story of the document is revealed in this impressive work of modern history. With new material retrieved from historical archives, scholar Jonathan Schneer recounts the public and private battles in the early 1900s for a small strip of land in the Middle East, battles that started when the governing Ottoman Empire took Germany's side in World War I. The Balfour Declaration is a rich and remarkable achievement, a riveting volume about the ancient faiths and timeless treacheries that

Jonathan Schneer

continue to drive global events.

Jonathan Schneer, a specialist in modern British history, is a professor at Georgia Tech's School of History, Technology, and Society. He is the author of five additional books, as well as numerous articles and reviews. He was a founding editor of *Radical History Review* and is a member of the editorial board of *20th Century British History and the London Journal.*

Sponsored by Barb and Bernie Banet.

Thursday, November 11, 7:30 p.m.
LADIES NIGHT OUT

Zoe Fishman—*Balancing Acts*

When four women who'd gone to college together run into each other at an alumni mixer, an instant bond is formed as Charlie convinces Bess, Naomi, and Sabine to join a beginner yoga class for just the four of them at her Brooklyn yoga studio. During the six weeks of class, the foursome proves to be easy to relate to as each discovers the strength to overcome some obstacle in their life.

Zoe Fishman

Fishman grew up in Mobile, Alabama, and later attended Boston University. After college, she arrived in New York and took a job in book publishing. Today, Fishman is the Foreign Rights Director and an agent for The Nancy Yost Literary Agency. *Balancing Acts* is her first novel.

Sponsored by Alice Fishman and Michael DiPietro.

Sunday, November 14, 10 a.m.

Ethan Zohn—*Soccer World: South Africa—Explore the World Through Soccer*

Demonstrating how the world's most popular sport also serves as a common language across all cultures, communities, and ages, this unique handbook explores the diverse country of South Africa through the game of soccer. Documenting the experiences of real-life professional player Ethan Zohn, this guide follows Zohn and his soccer-playing friend Tawela through the home of the 2010 World Cup, as they study ancient cave art and wildlife preserves, observe the migration of whales, and view a professional soccer game at one of the biggest stadiums in the world.

Ethan Zohn

Ethan Zohn, a JCC Maccabi Games alumni, is an American reality television series contestant who won $1,000,000 on *Survivor: Africa,* the third season of the reality TV series *Survivor*. After winning *Survivor* he co-founded Grassroot Soccer, which leverages soccer in order to raise money and awareness to fight HIV/AIDS. Shortly after winning *Survivor Africa*, Ethan was hired by ESPN to serve as a sideline reporter for the US National Team's matches in the 2002 FIFA World Cup.

Sponsored by Karen and Harry Silverman.

Sunday, November 14, 12:30 p.m.

Local Authors Luncheon

Jay Carp
Peter D. Jacobson
David Erik Nelson
Mitchell Rycus
David Schoem
Caryn Shapiro
Eugene Silverman
Emanuel Tanay
Joan Zald

Sponsored by Susan and Mark Orringer; the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies; and Huron River Press.

Sunday, November 14, 7:30 p.m.

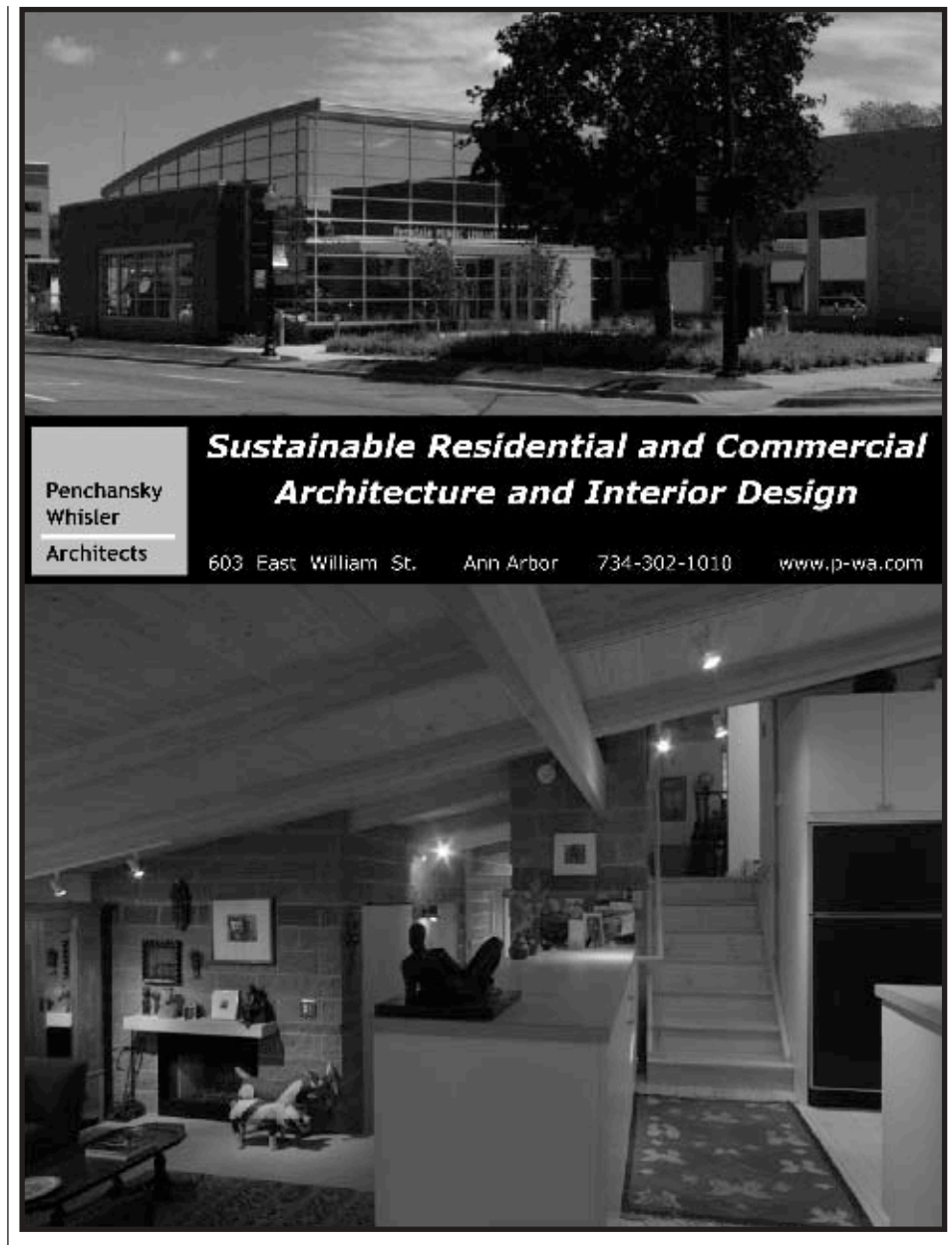
Rebecca Goldstein—*36 Arguments for the Existence of God – A Work of Fiction*

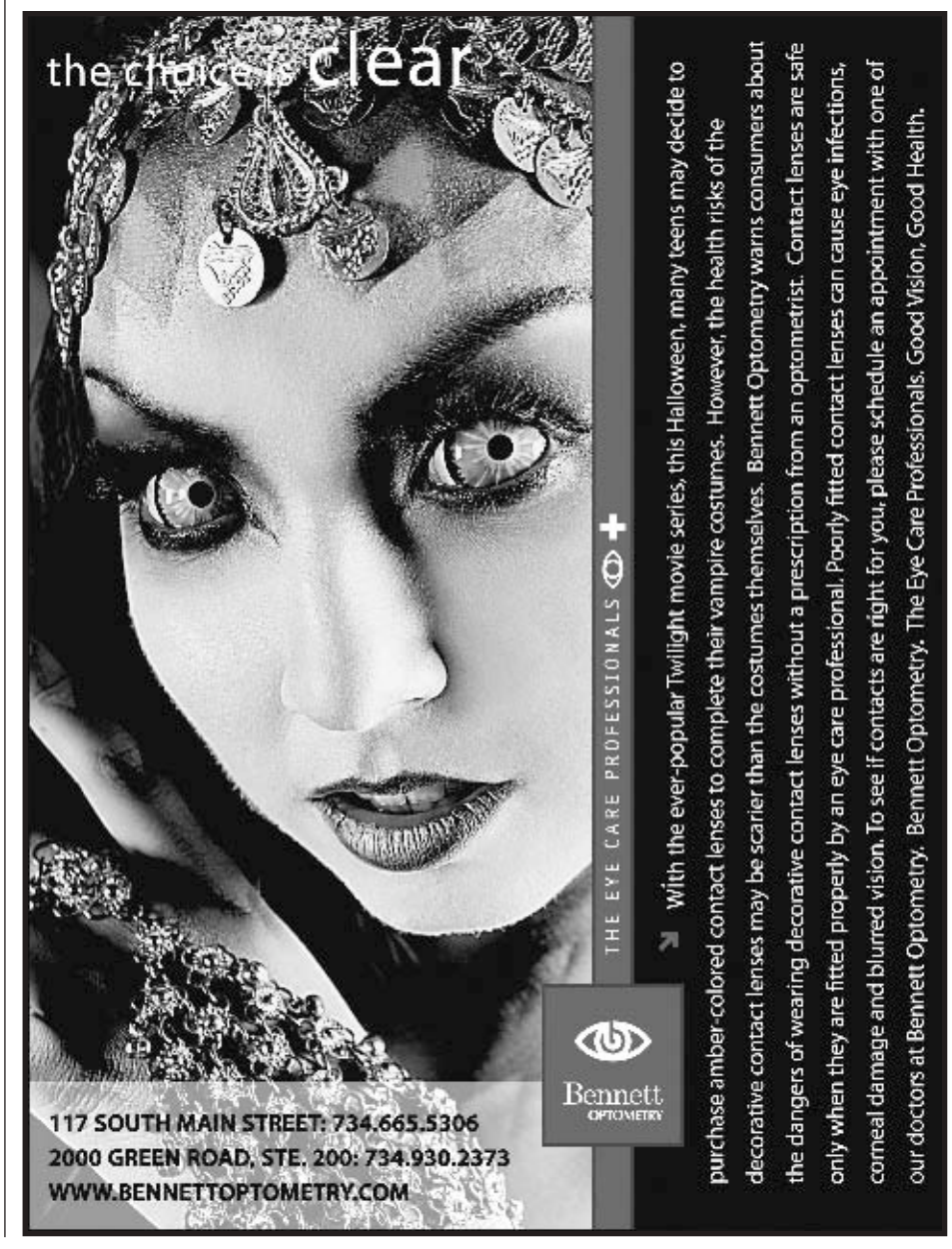
Cass Seltzer is a psychology professor whose writings about atheism make him a literary celebrity and bring him to state and rebut 36 arguments for and against the existence of God in an historic debate with a conservative economist. On the way to the debate, Seltzer interacts with members of a Hasidic sect, including his own brother, current and former girlfriends and professors/mentors. *36 Arguments for the Existence of God* is indeed a work of fiction, but it is informed by the background of its philosopher/novelist author. Goldstein combines her modern Orthodox upbringing with her twin professions of professor of philosophy (Harvard University) and novelist to inhabit her fictional characters.

Rebecca Goldstein

The author of several novels, including *The Mind-Body Problem* and *Mazel*, Goldstein has also written highly-accessible nonfiction books about Kurt Godel and Baruch Spinoza. ■

Sponsored by Mae and Leonard Sander.




the choice is clear
THE EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS
With the ever-popular Twilight movie series, this Halloween, many teens may decide to purchase amber-colored contact lenses to complete their vampire costumes. However, the health risks of the decorative contact lenses may be scarier than the costumes themselves. Bennett Optometry warns consumers about the dangers of wearing decorative contact lenses without a prescription from an optometrist. Contact lenses are safe only when they are fitted properly by an eye care professional. Poorly fitted contact lenses can cause eye infections, corneal damage and blurred vision. To see if contacts are right for you, please schedule an appointment with one of our doctors at Bennett Optometry. Bennett Optometry. The Eye Care Professionals. Good Vision, Good Health.
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SPICE* of Life

***Social, Physical, Intellectual, Cultural, and Educational Programs for Adults**

Merrill Poliner, special to the WJN

Tuesdays

10 a.m.–noon: The Bible in Its Time with Dr. Liz Fried. Continues through October 26. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class.

11 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10

Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person

1 p.m.: Games and Activities. Join in for a variety of games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects, and other card games.

1p.m.: Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No sports or computer experience necessary.

1:30 p.m.: Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). Open to the public as well as University of Michigan faculty, staff and students, all ages and levels welcome. Beanster's Café, ground floor, Michigan League. Free. For more information, call 936-2367.

Wednesdays

9:30–11:30 a.m. Stories of American Opera with Nathaniel Adam. Continues through October 27. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class.

October 20:

Afternoon Delights Concert sponsored by the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra featuring the Maestro Arie Lipsky and friends. **Dessert at 1 p.m., concert begins at 1:30 p.m. Tickets cost $8 at the door.**

Thursdays

10 a.m.: Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar. $4 per session, or 3 sessions for $10

11 a.m.: Current Events with Heather Dombey. A discussion of this week's news. Bring items of interest for group discussion.

Noon: Homemade Dairy Lunch Buffet. $3 per person

1 p.m.: Thursday Special Events and Presentations (see below for details)

2:15 p.m.: Literary Group facilitated by Sidney Warschausky, Call Merrill Poliner, 971-0990, for more information and the current book.

Fridays

1:30 p.m.: Yiddish Reading Group at the JCC. Call Ray Juni for additional information at 761-2765

Thursday special events and presentations

October 7

12:30 p.m: Birthday celebration for all with October birthdays. Bring your family and friends for lunch and birthday cake.

1 p.m. Tour the synagogues of Eastern Europe with photographer Nancy Margolis.

October 14

12:30 p.m.: A registered from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address any questions. Free. (This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.)

1 p.m. Elaine Sims, director of the University of Michigan Hospitals Gifts of Art program will discuss the relationship between health and the arts.

October 21

12:30 p.m.: Meet the Social Worker. Allison Pollock, JFS Geriatric Social Worker, will be available for discussion, questions and assistance.

1 p.m. Jewish Educator's Council Scholar-In-Residence, Silvio Berlfein, an Israeli dance and movement teacher, performs for the SPICE group.

October 28

1 p.m. Stephanie Murray of annarbor.com discusses the upcoming elections: local, state and national. ■

Shabbat in the Park

Avrum Kluger, special to the WJN

On Friday, September 3, the Young Adult Division (YAD) held Shabbat in the Park, an annual program of song, play, and a picnic dinner. Almost 200 community members assembled at Burns Park to celebrate Shabbat.

Young adults enjoying their Shabbat picnic dinner

"I am very pleased with the turn out for Shabbat in the Park. With our new Meetup.com website, the word about the event was even more wide spread than last year and we had many new families and young adults who have just moved to the area or have been here for awhile and just found out about us" said Julia Kessler-Hollar, YAD co-chair. "I look forward to Shabbat in the Park each year, and this was the best one yet by far!" continued Kessler-Hollar.

Debra Gompers and Brett Levy providedJewish musical accompaniment for the evening and set the Shabbat atmosphere. Federation Board member Debra Chopp welcomed the crowd and Rabbi Sara Adler and her family led the Shabbat blessings. The evening's delicious cookout was freshly grilled by Simply Scrumptious catering, now under Kashrut supervision of the Detroit VAAD.

Shabbat in the Park, co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor and Hebrew Day School, serves as kickoff event for the year's Young Adult Division programming. YAD serves emerging community members with a variety of social, cultural, educational, and philanthropic programs throughout the year. YAD offers abundant opportunities to become and remain involved in the local Jewish community.

Upcoming events include Hilarity and Charity on November 16, an adults-only evening with the comedy duo "Dave and Ethan." Also, a partnership with University Musical Society enables YAD members to enjoy discounts to world-renowned acts throughout the year. Additional programs include monthly bar nights, multicultural dinners, music and film nights, sports and volunteer opportunities. ■

(from left) Sharon Katz, Mia Rubinstein, Hannah Rubinstein and Marvin Katz

For more information, or to get involved, contact Avram Kluber at Avram@jewishannarbor.org or 677-0100. Also check out the group on Facebook at YAD of Ann Arbor.

JFS announces new board president and staf

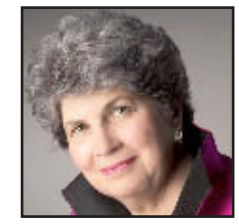
JFS staff, special to the WJN

Phyllis Herzig, a graduate of University of Michigan School of Social Work and former director of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Older Adult Program, has been named president of the Jewish Family Services board of directors.

Herzig has been a valued part of JFS since the organization's inception. A geriatric social worker, she conducted a study on the need for social services in the Ann Arbor Jewish community during her U-M graduate studies and participated in the committee that recommended the formation of an agency focused on these needs. Drawing on her experiences in employment, social work, and serving older adults, Herzig has provided invaluable expertise and mentoring to individual staff members, serving on both the Jewish Family Serices board of directors and Advisory Council.

Jennifer Arapoff

Morgan Deleonard



Phillis Herzig

Herzig, a Federation Board member, is also a certified substance abuse counselor and certified employee assistance counselor. She and her husband David have four children and five grandchildren and are members of Beth Israel Congregation; Phyllis is a member of Hadassah, and ORT.

Jennifer Arapoff has joined the JFS staff as its marketing director. Arapoff comes to JFS with 20 years of writing, editing, public relations and branding experience. She has worked in association and corporate settings as well as several nonprofit community groups, helping with fundraising, event planning, marketing and publicity. She serves as a team leader for American Cancer Society's Making Strides Walk and was a founding member of the community service group GiveTEN.net. Arapoff earned her B.S. in Journalism from the University of Maryland with a concentration on Public Relations. Arapoff and her husband Jason have three daughters,

Morgan Deleonard has joined JFS as a crisis management intake specialist. DeLeonard provides the initial intake of many JFS clients, as well as crisis management and community referrals. DeLeonard earned a BSW from Eastern Michigan University. Prior to working at JFS, she gained considerable experience in crisis management and intake as an information and referral specialist for another nonprofit in Washtenaw County.

JFS also has two highly respected outgoing board members this fall. Syma Kroll, who has been with the organization since its inception, and Aliza Shevrin, who served as the agency's second director, will conclude their terms but maintain an active connection to JFS and the broader Jewish community. ■

JFS a leader in social work training

Jennifer Arapoff, special to the WJN

JFS has a strong history of providing outstanding opportunities for social work internships, combining extensive hands-on training with strong supervision and mentoring. The tradition dates back to when Executive Director Anya Abramzon joined Jewish Family Services in 1994 as a student in the University of Michigan School of Social Work's Project STaR program. Dozens of students have served as interns at JFS since then.

This September, JFS continued to firmly establish itself as an area leader in social work and pre-social work training with an incoming "class" of seven interns: five MSW candidates from the University of Michigan, one BSW candidate from Eastern Michigan University, and an International Studies major from Eastern Michigan University. They join Ann Gevock, who has been an MSW intern in the Crisis Management and Community Services Department for more than a year. Gevock will graduate from the University of Michigan in December 2010 with an MSW concentrating in Interpersonal Practice in Mental Health.

A key element in being able to undertake the task of training such a large group of interns was the accreditation process JFS went through in 2009, which resulted in a three-year accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). The process took JFS from an informally structured, burgeoning organization to an agency that has the policies, processes and internal structures in place necessary to support long-term agency growth.

JFS interns work throughout the agency, closely supervised by social work staff, in both behind the scenes capacities such as volunteer management, advocacy, development, and human resources, as well as in day-to-day client work. JFS services include Crisis Management and Community Services, which provides critical needs to the community during time of urgent need; Career Services, which provides job placement, training and education, and other support to a broad spectrum of the community, including resettlement clients and WorkFirst participants; Older Adult Services, which provides transportation as well as assistance with living arrangements, health concerns, relationships, finances, losses and other life changes; and Resettlement, which assists refugees and their families with critical social services needed to ease their transition into a new way of living.

This year, two interns will be working with the Older Adult Services Department, one with Crisis Management and Community Services, one with Refugee Resettlement, two with the Employment Services and Jobs Education Training (JET) programs, and one in Management and Administration. While the incoming class of interns is at JFS to learn, they also bring a wide range of experiences to the agency, from working with refugees in Southwestern Michigan to serving in the Army National Guard in Kosovo, to helping empower abused women, to mentoring teenage girls at University of Michigan summer programs, to recruiting and hiring healthcare workers.

The role of the intern within JFS is a delicate one, in which the supervisor and administration must balance the student's need to learn through experience, with the agency's value that the client's needs always come first. Therefore, a student may spend many weeks or, in some cases, months, before they work independently with clients, often shadowing their supervisor and assisting with less complex aspects of a case. They may assist with some of the paperwork or background research needed to help a client, learning from these tasks, while freeing up the staff social worker to have more time to work directly with clients.

During individual weekly supervision they will debrief on the details of their assignments, and the supervisor and intern use this time as a learning opportunity to connect their fieldwork experiences to their university coursework. JFS interns also meet once a month as a group, with each of the supervisors leading sessions on a variety of social work related topics of interest to the group, and sharing their experiences. The overall intern program, including the recruiting of the interns, and the coordination and supervision of their training, is supervised by Deborah Renner, director of Community Resources. Renner, like Executive Director Anya Abramzon, came to Jewish Family Services herself as an intern from the University of Michigan School of Social Work, and never left the agency –a strong testament to the fact that Jewish Family Services is a great place both to learn and to work; an organization with passionate staff dedicated to tikkun olam. ■

JFS's 2010 fall intern class (from L to R): Rachel Kaminsky, Jamie Levin, Heather Littlefield, Karyn Baker, Ta-Kara Roquemore, Sarah Doll and Alana Knoppow. Not pictured: Ann Gevock and Erin Maxam.

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of Washtenaw County
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Jewish food traditions featured at first Jewish Women's Circle event

Mae Sander, special to the WJN

"Taste of Tradition: The Shabbat Meal" will be the first activity of the Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County for the 2010-2011 year. All women are invited to attend the event on Monday, October 11, at 7:30 p.m. Suggested donation is $10. Space is limited; for the meeting location and to reserve a spot contact Esther Goldstein at 995-3276 or esther@jewmich.com

Meetings of the Jewish Women's Circle begin with an informal gathering, providing an opportunity to make new friends and talk with old friends. At the October event, the featured activity will be a hands-on cooking demonstration of several traditional dishes for Shabbat meals. Shternie Zwiebel will prepare an Asheknazi specialty, and Irit Kaye will demonstrate food from her Israeli-Yemenite background.

The second meeting, "Havdalah Café," will take place November 20, and will include a Havdalah service and a talk about the use of spices in the Havdalah ceremony and in creative cooking. The schedule for the rest of the year will be announced soon.

"We are looking forward to another great year," says Gail Epstein, this year's event coordinator. "Over the summer, we surveyed a number of participants from the first two years of the Women's Circle, and learned more about what members want to do. We hope more people than ever will join us and that everyone will enjoy this year's events."

All interested women are welcome to participate in Jewish Women's Circle activities. Meeting information is available via the group's Facebook page (title: Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County). Women of all ages, regardless of affiliation or non-affiliation, are welcome to join either through Facebook or by contacting Esther Goldstein. ■

Women's League October programs

Yvonne Wardle, special to the WJN

On Saturday, October 9, from 4–5:30 p.m., the Beth Israel Women's League will gather to celebrate Rosh Chodesh Heshvan. Those attending are welcome to stay from 5:30-6 p.m. for minyan. Refreshments will be served.

On Wednesday, October 13, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., Women's League will host a Jewish Parents' Studies Group. The focus of the group will be on Jewish parenting, having a Jewish home, the Jewish social life for the whole family, and the connection between the home, synagogue and religious school. This group is for indepth study, discussion, and support for parents. Grandparents are welcome to attend.

On Sunday, October 17, from 9:30 a.m.–noon, Women's League will host The Beth Israel Cafe. Come socialize and spend time with old friends and have the opportunity to make new ones. A hospitality table will offer a selection of foods to choose from, including fruit to dip into a chocolate fondue pot; and gourmet coffee, hot chocolate, water and/or juices at the beverage station. There will be a children's area with crafts, coloring pages, books, games and more. For adults, there will be books, newspapers, crossword puzzles, games, Wi-Fi, and more. And for those wanting to find Jewish resources for themselves or anyone in their family, educational materials will be available for all ages, from babies through adult, from beginner to advanced levels of study. On Wednesday, October 20, from 4:30–5:30 p.m., Women's League will host a Baking/Cooking Discussion Club to talk about perfecting various Jewish and holiday recipes. Cooking/baking rituals, various traditions and blessings; cooking and baking tips will be discussed. Recipes will be available to take home, following each meeting.

All of these events will take place at Beth Israel Congregation. Members and non-members are invited to attend. The Beth Israel Cafe, the Cooking/Baking Discussion Club, and the Jewish Parent's Study Group are open to both men and women. For more information or to RSVP, contact Yvonne Wardle @ fulloflife01@live.com or 945-8256.

Women's League November Auction seeking donations

Beth Israel Women's League is seeking donations from businesses, crafters and artisans for its Dinner and Auction Fundraiser, to be held on November 21. Products, gift certificates and gift basket donations would be appreciated. All businesses and individuals that donate an item will be listed in the auction program book and on the event poster, and will be announced during the auction event. Anyone interested in donating an item should contact Yvonne Wardle at Yvonne Wardle@fulloflife01@live.com or 945-8256. ■

ORT opening brunch

Joan Levitt, special to the WJN

"All Things Italian: Food, Art, and ORT" will be the theme of the Ann Arbor chapter of ORT America's opening brunch. The brunch will be held on Sunday, October 3, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the home of Patti Aaron.

Members and prospective members of ORT America are invited to feast on Italian dishes and learn about ORT Italy. A highlight of the brunch will be an art history presentation on Jewish Venice by Dr. Shelley Perlove.

The Opening Brunch provides an opportunity to learn about ORT America's important work supporting World ORT's schools and high-tech training programs in 63 countries, empowering 300,000 students and beneficiaries annually. The brunch also provides an opportunity to learn about the Ann Arbor chapter's activities, including the Book Group and Cinema Club.

Rides to the brunch are available to those who need them. A $5 donation is suggested. Requests for more information and RSVPs should be addressed to Gretta Spier at a2gretta@mac.com or 662-3250.

Mira Sussman to be honored at Habonim gala

Esther Allweiss Ingber, special to the Wjn

A local Jewish communal worker will be honored in the Chicago area this fall at the Ameinu Midwest Gala marking 75 years of Habonim.

Mira Sussman, resettlement director at Jewish Family Services, is one of three Habonim activists who will be recognized at the celebration scheduled for Saturday, October 16, at the Evanston Golf Club in Skokie, Illinois. The others are academic lecturer Rabbi Herbert Bronstein, rabbi emeritus of North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe, Illinois; and Chicago businessman/energy expert Josh Ornstein, facilities director at Habonim Camp Tavor in Three Rivers.

An Ann Arbor native, Sussman grew up in a family affiliated with Habonim, now called Habonim Dror, a progressive Labor Zionist youth movement. Ameinu, based in New York City, provides funding for Habonim Dror North America.

Sussman completed her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Los Angeles, receiving her bachelor of arts degree in Jewish Studies from the University of Judaism (now American Jewish University), masters degree in social work from the University of Southern California and a master's degree in Jewish Communal Service from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Sussman moved back to Ann Arbor in 2005 to be close to her family, including parents Ron and Elana, and also started that year with the Jewish Family Services agency of Ann Arbor. In her current position of resettlement program director, Sussman works to resettle refugees from around the world in Michigan and Ohio. She lives in Ann Arbor with her husband, Doron Yitzchaki, and their two sons, Matan and Ishai.

Ameinu is seeking individuals who would like to be invited to the gala and the next morning's seminar on "Religious Pluralism in Israel," or are interested in placing a congratulatory ad in the event's tribute journal. Contact Esther Allweiss Ingber, director of Ameinu Detroit, at EstherIngber@gmail.com or call (248) 967-3170.

Hadassah opening event

Rosalyn Sarver, special to the WJN

The Ann Arbor Hadassah Chapter will host its opening event brunch on Sunday, October 10, from 10 a.m.–noon, at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. The theme will be "Yiddisha Music for Yiddisha Mamas." The morning entertainment will begin with a musical introduction by The Klez Kids, followed by Temple Beth Emeth's Kol Halev choir. The world-traveled choir has also performed with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

The cost for the event is $18. RSVP to Wendy Maybaum at 417-3372 or wmaybaum@gmail.com by October 1.

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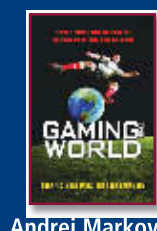

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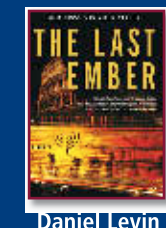

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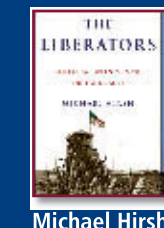

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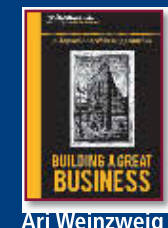

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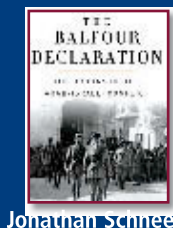

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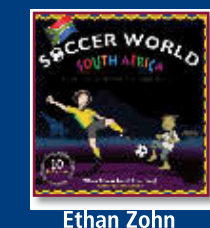
Zoe Fishman



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Federation 2010 allocations

David Shtulman, executive director, Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

In 2010, the Federation was faced with a second straight year of reduced allocations due to the continuing economic slump. The Annual Campaign closed at $1,410,000, a $55,000 decrease from the actual close of $1,465,000 in 2009. The absence of additional funding from a Humanitarian Award Dinner, and the undesirability of delving further into reserves, combined with the shortfall in campaign, resulted in a total shortage of more than $100,000.

While these allocations are based on the performance of the 2010 Annual Campaign, which began in the fall of 2009 and ended in the spring of 2010, they represent Federation support for the program year beginning in September 2010 and ending in August 2011.

Allocations support national agencies

There are three allocations that fall under this category and Ann Arbor's funding levels are based on a national fair share funding formula.

Birthright Israel

Birthright Israel is a national program to provide a free Israel experience to Jewish college students, age 18-26, who have never been to Israel. Birthright has provided the first Israel experience for more than 200,000 young Jews from the U.S. and 52 other countries.

Jewish Council on Public Affairs (JCPA)

The JCPA is the national umbrella organization for Jewish Community Relations Councils. They serve as the national voice for federation councils, provide backgrounders and serve as advisors to local communities when issues or activities of concern to the Jewish community arise locally.

Jewish Federations of North America

JFNA, formerly called UJC, is the national umbrella organization for all federations. It provides numerous support services for the federation world and serves as the primary policy and professional training body. In addition, JFNA is the liaison between American Jewry and the Jewish Agency for Israel (JAFI) and the Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the two primary service organizations to Jewish communities in Israel and around the world.

Allocations support Israel and global Jewish communities

The majority of funding from this line goes to two organizations, JAFI and JDC. For complete information about the activities of these organizations, go to their respective websites, JAFI.org and JDC.org.

JAFI has traditionally been responsible for the rescue and resettlement of vulnerable Jewish populations in Israel, immigration services for all other people who choose to make aliyah, support and integration services for new immigrants, preparatory services in those countries Jews are leaving from, and as the liaison organization between Israel and Jewish communities around the world.

In the past year, JAFI has refocused its mission and has moved strengthening Jewish identity and Israel/Diaspora ties to the top of its agenda. This shift in mission emphasis is important because it broadens the way we can think about the overseas allocation.

JDC is the primary support organization serving at-risk Jewish communities around the world who do not plan to leave their current countries of residence. Hundreds of thousands of Jews around the world rely on the services of the JDC for their survival. JDC also provides outstanding social service programs for vulnerable populations in Israel.

The Israel and Global Jewish Communities allocation is the vehicle through which Diaspora communities fulfill the mitzvah of "Kol Yisrael Arevim Zeh ba Zeh." (All Jews are Responsible, One for the Other.)

A portion of the Israel and Global Jewish Communities allocation is designated by the Ann Arbor Jewish Federation for the support of programs chosen specifically because they reflect the values and interests of our community. Federation staff and volunteers review the programs, make site visits, and communicate with the programs. The emphasis of these programs is Arab/Jewish coexistence and addressing the needs of particularly vulnerable populations. This portion of the allocation is called "Elective Funding" since we elect the programs that are funded.

For a full description of the elective overseas programs funded, see the full 2010 Allocations Report on the Federation web site at www.jewishannarbor.org.

In 2010, this percentage of campaign dollars allocated outside of Ann Arbor is 28%, with overseas allocations being 24% and national allocations being 4%.

Allocations support local Jewish needs

Security Services

Funding security services has become in recent years one of the most controversial allocations in our community. Following attacks on Jewish facilities in Los Angeles and Seattle, Federation created a $100,000 allocation line to pay for full-time security guards at the JCC and at Jewish Family Services and any special events during the course of the year. The allocation has been renewed annually by the Board.

Each year, several community members question whether Federation is the most appropriate body to determine whether security should be available at these agencies or not.

This year, the question was brought to the Allocations Committee once again. It was the opinion of the Allocations Committee, later affirmed by the Federation Board, that this decision should not be a Federation decision.

Therefore, the decision was made to allocate the amount paid for each of the guards to the agencies served by the guards. This money will become a permanent addition to the base allocation of the agencies and they can determine for themselves each year whether the funding is best used for security or to fund agency programs according to the wishes of their boards, clients and staff.

The actual cost of the two guards is $90,000. Additional security costs for special events will become the responsibility of whatever agency sponsors those events. Of the remaining $10,000 from the $100,000 allocation, $8,000 will be used to restore Jewish Summer Camp Scholarships, which were eliminated last year.

Jewish Summer Camp Scholarships

Jewish summer camping is a proven vehicle for strengthening Jewish awareness and involvement. Therefore, scholarships have been provided by the Federation to make Jewish camping experiences, both day camps and overnight camps, available to local Jewish children. In 2009, the need to meet increasing

Continued on next page

critical human needs with fewer dollars caused us to eliminate this allocation line. This year, the new approach to security services, as described above, allows us to return this important support to the community.

Israel Scholarships

The Federation believes that an Israel Experience plays an important role in developing Jewish identity in our youth and in teaching them about their Jewish roots. In 2009, due to the economic crisis, it was necessary to cut this allocation. This year, the Federation has determined that use of money previously dedicated to JAFI can now be used for this purpose while still supporting the mission of JAFI. Therefore, this allocation line is being restored and funded through the Israel/Global Jewish Communities budget.

Chabad of Ann Arbor

Chabad of Ann Arbor is an important element in the life of our Jewish community. Chabad provides many services for area college students, adult education courses for the Jewish community, Shabbat and holiday services for families who are not members of any other local congregation and a summer camp for young children. This year they added a much appreciated Chanukah Wonderland activities center at the Mall.

Jewish Educators Council

The Jewish Educators Council represents the 127 Jewish educators and 850 students receiving Jewish education in Ann Arbor. The Federation feels the Jewish Educators Council has done an outstanding job of using its allocation effectively.

Keshet Ann Arbor

Keshet Ann Arbor is a unique program offering Hebrew language instruction to area high school students in a supplementary school format that is eligible for high school foreign language credit. This is the only option available for students to study Hebrew language for high school credit. Keshet is supported by both Temple Beth Emeth and Beth Israel Congregation. In addition, the families of the 26 students make significant financial contributions ($350 per semester) to help support the program. Even so, Keshet faced a severe funding shortage this year. The Federation has worked closely with Keshet over the past few months to correct the budgetary errors and hopes that Keshet can operate within its budgetary constraints in the future.

Hillel at Eastern Michigan University

Hillel at EMU operates on a shoe-string budget in support of 1,000 Jewish students. Its primary funding comes from the Detroit Federation, which is making substantial funding cuts due to its own campaign shortfalls. This will place severe strains on Hillel's ability to serve its students, which is especially difficult since Hillel is virtually the only Jewish presence on the EMU campus. Hillel has been active in encouraging the creation of a Jewish Studies program at EMU and Prof. Martin Schichtman has been given the title of Director of Jewish Studies. Hillel notes that nearly 90% of EMU graduates remain in Michigan so its efforts help to build future Jewish leadership locally

Hillel at the University of Michigan

Hillel at the University of Michigan is perhaps the finest Hillel program in the nation. It does an outstanding job of serving the approximately 6,000 Jewish students who study there and supports approximately 50 Jewish organizations on campus. The allocation is directed towards helping to maintain Hillel's kosher kitchen, the only kosher food on campus.

Hebrew Day School

HDS shares enrollment struggles with its fellow day schools across the country. The recession, job uncertainty and the need to reduce costs by families is putting the cost of a Day School education out of reach for many Jewish families who would otherwise choose one. 87 students enrolled in 2009/10 and HDS was able to open with a balanced budget. However, further reductions in enrollment are possible in 2010/11 because of families leaving town for new jobs or returning to Israel in the case of Israeli families. Every lost student is a significant hit to the HDS budget and represents the loss of future income as well.

The Federation believes it is essential Day School education continue to be available in Ann Arbor but does not have the resources to continue to support the school at the same level.

Jewish Community Center

The Jewish Community Center is the "home base" for Jewish communal life and activity in Ann Arbor. It runs an accredited Early Childcare Center, provides services for all ages from tots to seniors, is home to the Federation, HDS, the Washtenaw Jewish News, Jewish Cultural Society and the Reconstructionist Havurah. The JCC's Jewish Book Fair and Jewish Film Festival are two highlights of the Ann Arbor Jewish calendar and the Florence Melton Adult Education program is a prestigious adult education offering available to the entire community.

The primary challenge to the JCC is the cost of maintaining the physical plant, a never-ending task in an older facility. The Federation recognizes the importance of the JCC in the Jewish community and the operating challenges it faces. Nonetheless, the reduction in allocable dollars this year necessitates a further reduction in its allocation.

Jewish Family Services

Jewish Family Services is a full service human services agency. It offers an impressive array of services to all of Ann Arbor and is thus able to access grants and generate revenues from multiple government sources as well as community foundations and the United Way. In addition, its newly received CARF accreditation allows JFS to begin to access revenues from third-party payers for services it previously provided without full compensation. JFS serves as the first responder to community needs resulting from the recession and the shrinking job market.

Michigan Jewish Professionals (JPros)

Two years ago, a grant from the Federation funded the beginning of a new organization serving all the Ann Arbor Jewish community professionals. Under the leadership of Robin Axelrod and Mira Sussman, JPros has developed into an important vehicle for the professional staffs of our agencies, congregations and organizations to come together, work more synergistically, learn from one another and share mutual goals and frustrations.

Reserve for Unmet Pledges

The Federation bases its allocations on the pledges of its donors. While allocations are determined in May, pledge payments are not due until December 31. Therefore, the ability of Federation to pay out the promised allocations depends on donors fulfilling their pledges. Each year, for a variety of reasons, a number of pledges are not paid. To cover this shortfall the Federation holds back a reserve for unmet pledges that it can draw from to fulfill its obligations to its beneficiaries. The number of unpaid pledges has slowly been increasing over the past three years testing the limits of the reserve fund. In 2009 the amount in the fund was increased from $25,000 to $40,000 in light of the increasing number of defaults. On the advice of the Finance Committee, the Federation is maintaining the Reserve at the current amount.

The Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Foundation

The Jewish Community Foundation is a function of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor and therefore its operating costs are included in the allocation for the Jewish Federation.

The Federation is charged with being the primary fundraising organization for the Jewish community, operating the Jewish Community Foundation, being the umbrella organization for all Jewish communal agencies and the liaison to other Jewish communities and organizations across the nation and around the world. Federation also administers several community-wide programs like PJ Library, the Community Relations and Israel Advocacy functions and sponsors community events like the Main Event, Celebrate Israel and the Biennial Humanitarian Award Dinner. In addition, during this past year the Federation initiated the B'nai Tzedek Youth Philanthropy program, a student exchange program for local teens in Israel and is working with Temple Beth Emeth to organize a community bike trip in Israel.

The Jewish Community Foundation provides the opportunity for community members to create planned gifts and endowments for the long-term support of all local Jewish communal congregations, agencies and organizations as well as the Federation.

Last year, in light of the reduced community resources, the Federation cut its budget by $51,000, several times the reductions imposed on any of its beneficiaries. While the final reduction to the agencies last year represented only about one percent of an agency's total budget, the reduction to the Federation budget was a full eight percent.

Once again, the Federation will share in the need to tighten its belt. Despite increases in rent and other fixed costs, the Federation will eliminate another half-time position and again spread those responsibilities among remaining staff. The Federation request will be $23,532 less than the prior year.

Conclusion

Having fewer dollars does not necessarily mean that we cannot continue to grow as a Jewish community. It does means we need to focus more intently on our priorities and be more creative in how we think about and how we offer the services that are important to our community.

Ultimately, it is the Federation Annual Campaign that is the engine of Jewish community life today and the Jewish Community Foundation that is the promise of financial stability for the future. When we as donors reduce our commitments to the Annual Campaign we also reduce our abilities to meet our community's needs. The two are inextricably linked.

It is the Federation's firm belief that our Jewish community will emerge from this period smarter and more efficient than we have been in the past and with a greater commitment to sustaining and growing the extraordinary Jewish life we have created and enjoy here in Ann Arbor. ■

Jewish Federation Of Greater Ann Arbor 2010 Annual Campaign Allocations

Total Allocations	**$1,411,279**
Allocations to Local Agencies	
Chabad	$ 5,000
Hebrew Day School	$ 107,200
Hillel - EMU	$ 11,650
Hillel - UM	$ 5,000
Israel Scholarships	$ 9,700
Jewish Community Center	$ 163,000
Jewish Community Foundation	$ 91,274
Jewish Educators Council	$ 5,000
Jewish Family Services	$ 118,500
Jewish Federation (campaign)	$ 142,495
Jewish Federation (community programming)	$ 158,711
Jewish Federation (administration)	$ 142,520
Jewish Summer Camp Scholarships	$ 8,000
Keshet Ann Arbor	$ 12,750
Michigan-Israel Business Bridge	$ 9,700
Michigan Jewish Professionals	$ 500
Reserve for Unmet Pledges	$ 40,000
Total Local Allocations	$ 1,031,000
Non-Local Allocations	
Birthright Israel	$ 5,000
Hand in Hand Schools	$ 5,000
JDC Welfare Relief in the FSU	$ 25,000
Jewish Council for Public Affairs	$ 1,500
Jewish Federations of North America Dues	$ 54,979
JFNA Collective Overseas Allocation	$ 229,300
Net@ (JAFI)	$ 7,500
Parents and Children Together (JDC)	$ 5,000
Partnership 2000	$ 30,000
Ramle Mediation Center	$ 7,000
SELAH Israel Crisis Management Center	$ 10,000
Total Non-Local Allocations	**$ 380, 279**

Note: Total allocations = $1,411,279 less $142,495 Campaign expenses. Campaign expense is 10.1% of total allocations.

A complete explanation of these allocations can be found at www.jewishannarbor.org, Under Ways to Give>2010 Allocations Report.

Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

Beth Israel Congregation October activities

Elliot Sorkin, special to the WJN

Hebrew-in-a-Day

The Hebrew-in-a-Day class on Sunday, October 3, provides a great opportunity to start learning Hebrew from the very beginning. From 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m., participants will learn the Alef Bet, develop reading skills and learn some basic vocabulary. A dairy lunch and all course materials are included. Tuition for the program is $80 for members of Beth Israel or Temple Beth Emeth, and $100 for non-members. The instructor for the day is Pauli Weizman. Pauli has been teaching Hebrew at the University of Michigan since 1987, and is the recipient of an "Excellence in Education" award by the Department of Near Eastern Studies. She is a native Israeli and has earned two masters degrees—one in Teaching English as a Second Language and the other in social work; she also has a bachelor's degree in Hebrew linguistics. Pauli teaches at Keshet, and has developed her own introductory Hebrew course pack (with a compatible online program) entitled "Getting Acquainted."

Contact Mary at 665-9897 x223 or mary@bethisrael-aa.org for further information. Other conversational and biblical Hebrew courses on a variety of levels began in late September. Contact Mary to see if you can still enroll in one of the classes.

Registration open for new Mussar study group

A new Mussar study group will be offered beginning on Tuesday, October 5, at 7p.m. According to Dr. Alan Morinis, "Mussar, is an ancient set of Jewish tools for living… not only something you learn, but something you do… because spiritual transformation is not just an intellectual exercise."

Studying Mussar is a great way to practice Judaism in a more spiritual way. It helps improve relationships with family, friends, and co-workers. It provides tools for living a more meaningful and rewarding life. The New Year is a perfect time to make the commitment to study this age-old spiritual tradition and experience its powerful impact on daily life.

The course, "Season of Mussar" I, uses materials produced by Dr. Alana Morinis of The Mussar Institute. The class will meet together for group study twice a month on Tuesday evenings from 7:30–9 pm for seven sessions (October 5, 19; November 9, 23; December 7, 21; January 11). Partners will meet on alternate weeks on a day and at a time of their choosing.

The fee for the course is $100, payable directly to The Mussar Institute. Arrangements can be made for partial scholarships. For further information or to register, contact course facilitator Roann at roann@umich.edu or 483-8352. Registration must be done in advance so that materials can be received and read in preparation for the first meeting.

Five Monday night Torah lessons

Meeting over coffee and cake at 8 p.m., these five sessions will concentrate on the favorite Torah lessons of instructor Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, followed by a discussion. On October 18, Rabbi Dobrusin will present "The Blessings for an Aliyah to the Torah: Some thoughts on the meaning of an unusual phrase and its spiritual connection with a well-known legend." On November 15, Rabbi Dobrusin will discuss "Joseph's Revelation to His Brothers: Why did he choose that moment to reveal his identity and what is the message for us today? " On January 24, he will discuss "Veshamru Benay Yisrael et HaShabbat: "The Children of Israel shall keep the Shabbat". What does it mean to be "shomray Shabbat"—to "keep" the Sabbath—and what does Moses' smile have to do with it? On March 7, he will present "A Hidden Message in the Purim Story: Do we have to be free to feel free? When does redemption really come?" On April 4, the topic will be "The Two Most Important Words in the Haggada: What are these two words, and how much meaning could two seemingly ordinary words have?"

Rev. George Lambrides to present "From Baptist to Bridge Builder"

On Friday October 29, at 7:30 p.m., the new Interfaith Perspectives Series will be launched at Beth Israel. The first presenter is Rev. George Lambrides, executive director of the Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. He will discuss his own personal journey and his theological and religious transitions that brought him from a narrow, rigid religious life to his involvement in and eventual leadership of the Interfaith Round Table. He will share his perspectives on his experiences in Ann Arbor, how the academic environment affects interfaith work and the challenges and rewards of building bridges across religious divides. The Kabbalat Shabbat Service will start at 7:30 p.m., followed by an oneg reception and presentation at 8:15 p.m.

Wednesday Lunch and Learn

On every Wednesday in October, from noon–1:15 p.m., the weekly Torah portion will be discussed, giving a critical eye to the stories from Genesis which detail the trials and tribulations of the matriarchs and patriarchs. Participants are asked to bring a dairy lunch and Beth Israel will provide the beverages and dessert. The facilitators of this series are Rabbi Robert Dobrusin and Rabbi Kim Blumenthal.

Baby Shabbat

Baby Shabbat will take place on Saturday, October 2, at 9:30 a.m. New babies born over the past year are officially welcomed and blessed by the congregation around 11:30 a.m. during the Shabbat morning service. Babies will also be presented with T-shirts marking the date of their upcoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah year, followed by a kiddush for everyone present, with the name of each baby decorated on sheet cakes.

Friday Night Lights

On Friday, October 15, the new monthly series of family oriented Friday night

Kabbalat Shabbat services and Shabbat dinners will begin. The service will be at 6 p.m. followed by a Shabbat dinner at 7 p.m. The dinner will cost $7 per person, with no charge for children ages 3 and under. October's family-friendly menu will include a taco/burrito dinner. Because of Shabbat, there must be a pre-payment for the dinner, which will confirm the family's reservation. Send your check made out to Beth Israel Congregation to the office.

Tailgate kiddush

Beth Israel offers a meat Tailgate Kiddush following Shabbat services on Saturday, October 23, at 12:15 p.m. Beth Israel's egalitarian and participatory Shabbat morning service will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The Tailgate Kiddush will include hot dogs, chili, baked beans, veggie options, hot cider and more. The name of the Kiddush refers only to the type food served, as there are no football games on that Saturday.

Tot Shabbat

Tot Shabbat is a Saturday morning service for parents and their children 2–5 years old on October 9 and October 23, at 11:15 a.m.. that will include songs, stories, and prayers. This program is run by Peretz Hirshbein on the second Saturday of each month and Jessica Kander on the fourth Saturday of each month. Special preschool sized tables are set up for the regular Kiddush so that families may easily attend with their children following Tot Shabbat. There is no charge for this bi-monthly program.

Lunch and Learn

Join in on Wednesdays at noon as a variety of interesting topics are explored. In October the weekly Torah portion will be studied, giving a critical eye to the stories from Genesis. Come learn about the trials and tribulations of the matriarchs and patriarchs! Bring a dairy lunch, snacks and beverages will be provided.

New mini minyan for children in K–2nd grades

The new Mini Minyan is a program offered on the second Saturday morning of each month which will serve as a bridge between Tot Shabbat which is aimed at preschool children and their parents, and Kehillat Shabbat which is intended for 3rd–5th graders. Mini Minyan will feature many of the same songs and stories enjoyed during Tot Shabbat, while also offering the chance for children to learn and explore many of the Shabbat morning prayers through age appropriate activities. The Mini Minyan service will be led by program director Jacob Kander with special games and activities led by a team of parent volunteers. The first Mini Minyan will meet on Saturday, October 9 at 11 a.m.

High school trip to Cedar Point

On Sunday, October 3, high school students are invited to take a trip down to Cedar Point. Lunch will be eaten on the bus, with seven hours of roller coaster rides until the park closes. Contact Jacob Kander, the Beth Israel program director for more information. The bus will leave at noon. and return at 11 p.m.

Kadima pizza making and a movie

The Kadima Pizza Making and a Movie event will be offered on Wednesday, October 20, at 5:45 p.m., for 6th–8th graders. Kadima is the middle school youth group. Throughout the year Kadima offers activities, retreats and more to form friendships and create a strong sense of Jewish identity. Many of the activities are planned and run by the oldest Kadima members who choose to be a part of the 8th grade Leadership Team. Each week there is also a Kadima lounge offered on Wednesdays between the end of school and the start of Beth Israel Religious school as a place to relax, play games, or complete homework. This year's movie will be *How to Train Your Dragon.* ■

Parsha Noah

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

On Shabbat October 9, we will read about the great flood of Noah's day came as a result of the all-pervasive evil of the times. Noah, a righteous man with a righteous family, worked for one hundred twenty years building the Ark of refuge. Noah saved himself and his family (and all the animals) from the deluge so that life could continue after the cleansing. But as we reflect upon the story, did he really succeed? Our sages see a big problem with Noah's behavior. Did he do as God told him? Yes. So what's the problem? The big problem is that he did not try to save anyone else.

Contrast Noah's response to a destructive decree from heaven with Abraham's response. Abraham tried very hard to change the decree of Sodom and Gemorrah and spent his whole life trying to transform the society of his time.

The different approaches of the two forefathers are instructive to us today. As in both cases, we must stand up for what is right even when everyone around us is doing wrong. But we must also emulate our patriarch Abraham in the way he strived to have a positive influence and change the direction, for the better, on the lives of those around him. We all can have a positive influence in changing the world for the better. A famous author once wrote something to the effect that all evil needs to succeed is for good people to do nothing. So, by all means, continue to improve yourself but don't be a bystander like Noah, reach out, like our patriarch Abraham, and help others to improve themselves as well. ■

October programs at Temple Beth Emeth

Rabbi Lisa Delson, special to the WJN

Families with young children (FYC) Tot Story Hour

Wednesday, October 20, 10 a.m.

Wendy Holden, TBE's new librarian, will share a story with tots in the library. It is a great way to meet other families and listen to a fun story. No RSVP needed. For more info, contact Wendy at wendyholden@comcast.net.

TNT (Twenties and Thirties) happy hour and Shabbat dinner

Friday, October 22, 5 p.m. happy hour, 6 p.m. dinner

All Ann Arbor Twenties and Thirties are invited to Grizzly Peak in downtown Ann Arbor for happy hour and dinner. Come for a relaxing time at the end of the week and have an alternative Shabbat dinner. Couples and singles are welcome. For more information or to RSVP, contact Brett Willner at bwillner@templebethemeth.org or call 665-4744.

Jewish Hikers of Michigan

Sunday, October 17, 1 p.m. at Barton Park

Jewish Hikers of Michigan offers a monthly hike through a local nature area. Hikes are led by Eli Avny. Bring back packs, munchies, and water. The activity lasts approximately 1 to 1-1/2 hours. The hike is not physically demanding, is very scenic and is free. Participants are asked to not bring pets. For further information, contact Eli Avny at 883-9522, Brett Willner at 665-4744, or email jewish.hikers@gmail.com. Meet at Barton Park, located on West Huron River Drive, half between North Maple Road and North Main Street along Barton Pond. Maps are available on the TBE website: www.templebethemeth.org.

Movie Tuesday

Tuesday, October 19, 1–3 p.m.

This month's free daytime movie is *Defiance*, directed by Edward Zwick. This movie tells the story of the Bielski brothers who fight for both the Soviet and Jewish Partisans in Nazi-occupied Europe. The movie explores a long time sibling rivalry between the brothers and how wartime brought both together but also further apart. Join community members for this afternoon movie and discussion on sibling rivalry in the modern world. Snacks are always provided and childcare can be arranged with advance notice. Everyone is welcome.

Beit Café adult education nights

Mondays, October 25, November 29, January 31, and February 28, 7–9 p.m.

TBE is delving deeper into adult education with a mini-college adult education night. Each night offers participants a choice of two of four classes taught by Jewish professionals, dedicated volunteers and the clergy. All topics relate to the 5771 theme for TBE: Sustaining Our Souls, Our Community, and Our World. In between the two classes there will be a chance to schmooze and enjoy coffee house refreshments.

This month, participants can choose from:

7 p.m.: *What is Reform Judaism Anyway?* with Rabbi Levy or *The Music of the Diaspora*, with Jack Zaientz

8 p.m.: *The Jewish Response to Hunger and Poverty*, with Susan Beckett or *The Changing Role of Women in Reform Judaism*, with Karla Goldman

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Levy

Fridays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29, noon

This informal study session with Rabbi Levy offers the opportunity to discuss whether or not there is an environmental ethic in Judaism. Participants should feel free to bring their own lunch; no reservation is necessary.

Women's retreat

Saturday, October 2, 2–8 p.m.

Join with Cantor Rose, Rabbi Delson, and other women in the community for a day of learning and sharing stories. The day will include a workshop on tallit-making, a unique prayer experience, meditation, writing, and dinner. For more information on pricing for the tallit-making kit, call 665-4744, or email Cantor Rose at cantorannie@gmail.com.

Women's Torah study

Mondays, October 4 and 18, 7–8:30 p.m.

This month the Women's Torah study group will delve into Parashat Bereshit, the beginning of the Torah. They will also be looking at Parashat Lech-Lecha, one of the most famous Torah portions because of Abraham's courage to leave his home, the place he knew, to travel to a place that God shows him.

Spirituality Book Club

Tuesday October 5, 7:30 –9 p.m.
Thursday October 7, noon–1:30 p.m.

Join Cantor Annie Rose in an exploration of books with a spiritual theme. This year she has expanded the book club to include those with an open daytime schedule as well as the regular evening time. This month the groups will read *Have a Little Faith* by Mitch Albom. Everyone is welcome to join in the discussion. For questions contact Cantor Rose at cantorannie@gmail.com

Basic Judaism

Sundays, October 10–February 27, 7:45–9 p.m.

Rabbi Delson will teach Basic Judaism again this year. This course is for those interested in Judaism, those born Jewish who would like to learn more and those in the community who want to learn more about their Jewish neighbors. This class covers the mainstays in Jewish life, the calendar, the life cycle, and offers participants the opportunity to ask questions that they have always wanted to ask. The cost of the class is $30 for non-members, free to synagogue members. To register, contact Rabbi Delson at ldelson@templebethemeth.org.

Adult Hebrew crash course

Mondays, October 11, 18 November 1, 8, 15, 7–8:30 p.m.

TBE is partnering with the Jewish Outreach Institute to offer a beginners crash course in Hebrew. These five sessions will provide tools to learn the alphabet and begin to read words. This course is open to the entire Jewish community. Attendees must commit to attending all five sessions. For more information and to register contact Rabbi Delson at ldelson@templebethemeth.org or call 665-4744. The cost is $18.

Men's Torah study

Wednesdays, October 13 and 27, 7:30 p.m.

The men of TBE believe that Torah study is one of the cornerstones of congregational life. Each time this group meets, they have meaningful conversations and enjoy some time schmoozing and having fun. If you have questions about this group, contact Roger Stutesman at rgstutesman@sbcglobal.net. ■

Ask the Rabbi

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, special to the WJN

For many years, I have had an "Ask the Rabbi" column on our synagogue website. I have received many serious questions on many different subjects and I view it as an opportunity to share a perspective on important issues of the day and puzzling Jewish concepts.

This year, I plan to write a series of articles for *Washtenaw Jewish News* which will delve more deeply into some of the areas I have been asked about. I remind you that these are my personal thoughts on the issues involved and do not reflect what all Jews or all rabbis believe. You should always consult your rabbi with questions of Jewish practice.

One issue which has been the subject of many questions has been the perspective of Jewish law on the issue of organ donation. This is a critical question and one which I have written about extensively in the past.

When this question originally came up a few decades ago, there was an immediate reaction against organ donation from many rabbis as two issues presented difficulties.

The first issue was the prohibition in Jewish law against defacing a body after death. Jewish tradition dictates that the body be buried without any defacing whatsoever. The only exception would be if a local government mandated an autopsy. Other than that exception, this principle was considered sacrosanct.

Secondly, as transplantation became more advanced and involved major organs, the issue arose as to how one could sanction such an action when, medically, there was a requirement that there still be circulation present in the donor body. The donor could be considered "brain dead" allowing the donation to take place but, in order for some organs to be taken, there still had to be circulation, often aided by a respirator. This presented a problem to Jewish law because there is no concept of brain death in Jewish sources. Death comes with the cessation of circulation and respiration. Thus, "harvesting" the organs while there was still circulation and respiration would be considered murder.

As transplantation became more common and more successful and as the need for organs increased, many rabbis from all different perspectives on Jewish law began to take a look at these issues again and most rabbis have ruled, and with this I agree 100 percent, that the opportunity for saving a life presented by modern medicine overrides concern for either of the two issues above. Since *pikkuach nefesh*, saving a life, is so critical in Jewish thinking, how could we allow these two concepts, as important as they may be, to stand in the way of participating in the mitzvah of being an organ donor?

Some rabbis found ways to re-interpret the texts so that these issues were understood in different ways. Others chose merely to ignore them in deference to saving a life. But, one way or the other, most rabbis today would consider organ donation to be a great act of kindness and commitment to life.

Then, one more question arose. If in fact we are commanded to act in ways which save lives, can registering as an organ donor be considered a "mitzvah," an obligation, a commandment? Is a person who does not agree to be a potential organ donor breaking Jewish law? This is a difficult question, because if we consider it a "mitzvah" then we are adding to the body of commandments incumbent upon an individual and that is a very serious step indeed.

Despite a hesitation to create new commandments, I believe that we should treat this as a sacred obligation. I believe that it is absolutely incumbent upon us to sign the permission for organs to be taken for transplantation if, God forbid, the situation were to arise. The same holds true for the critical areas of tissue donation (corneas, heart valves, ligament, bone and skin) and cell donation, which are as vital in many ways as organ donation.

I understand that it might take some time for people who remember the days when Jewish law frowned on this practice to feel entirely comfortable with this. But I think we must actively and passionately teach our community that this is the "Jewish way."

It should be noted as well that respect for Jewish burial traditions should go hand in hand with the willingness to have organs donated. It is for this reason that I do not believe that donating one's entire body for scientific research is proper according to Jewish law. The body should be buried appropriately with the proper "*tahara,*" ritual purification of the body, and the burial should take place as soon as is reasonably possible. Neither of these should be an issue after one has posthumously performed the mitzvah of *pikkuach nefesh* by donating organs for transplantation.

I strongly urge you to consider this issue and hope that you are or will be among the millions who have agreed to be a potential organ donor should, God forbid, the situation arise. Saving a life is a mitzvah in Jewish tradition and this is one way we can all embrace that obligation. ■

Integrating design and pedagogy: HDS renovates its kindergarten classroom

Dina Shtull, special to the WJN

Organizing learning spaces to promote optimal learning is an important task of early childhood professionals. Following through on a goal that had been part of the school's strategic plan for a number of years, Hebrew Day School (HDS) set out this past summer to renovate its kindergarten classroom. "Investment in this asset is an important strategic step," says Michael Pedersen who, along with his wife Dina, played a lead role in the project. "Parents are attracted to the Gan (Hebrew for kindergarten) because of its strong academic program," says Dina. "The curriculum is regularly evaluated and changed to meet student needs; the physical environment must be reviewed and adjusted as well," she added. "The atmosphere of our new room is both serene and exciting," says Gan teacher Judy Musket. "It appeals to the children's interest in color and pattern and makes the room very inviting. In addition, the organization of physical space affects program quality; it influences the range of options children have to explore using different learning styles," Musket added.

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The renovation of the kindergarten was designed and led by HDS parent Limor Gutnick, a commercial interior designer by profession. Gutnick developed the project plan, and through her professional connections, secured high quality materials and contract work at lower costs. Working closely with the JCC, she was also able to secure savings for the JCC lounge renovation which also took place during the summer. Gutnick offered creative solutions around the use of color and space. "In the field of educational design," says Gutnick, "color can reduce passivity and refresh visual processing. Visual stimulation, according to the research, can foster visual thinking, problem solving, and creativity," she added. Gutnick was aided by a design intern and received input from educators such as Jennifer Rosenberg, Judy Musket, and Ilana Blumberg. "As we discussed the rich curriculum and the many activities that take place in the Gan," said Rosenberg, "we took care to make sure the various areas in the room could function in multiple ways to accommodate the variety. We also considered that each group of children comes with different interests; the design therefore reflects flexibility to personalize the space depending on the need."

"A kindergarten room needs to provide small-group space for two to six children," said Blumberg. "These spaces become places where kids can work together, invent their own projects, and sustain work on these projects with independence and enthusiasm. Children might also use these spaces to work quietly with a teacher in a more intimate setting," Blumberg added.

The kindergarten renovation included changing the floors, wall finishes, electrical wiring, cabinetry, and furniture. Newer energy-efficient lighting fixtures came from the JCC lounges which received new lighting as part of the lounge renovation. The floor layout included spaces for large and small-group gatherings. Room sections were designated for science and math, drama, writing, and guided reading with a teacher. A special corner was designed as the classroom library and quiet corner. Because of the school's commitment to bilingual learning using an immersion approach, the decision was made to integrate Hebrew throughout the classroom rather than having one Hebrew corner. A new teacher's station was built to include space for both adult work and teacher-student collaboration. Shelves and storage units define spaces so that children can move easily from one activity to another without interfering with ongoing learning of other children. "Having plentiful space for displaying children's work was a priority," explained Musket. "We have very large bulletin boards in three main areas of the room, and additional spaces for children to hang their work. Our bins are filled with toys and supplies that are easily accessible to the children," Musket added. "We designed the storage areas to help children classify, match, and learn to read labels. We also wanted children to be able to locate their own materials and care for their environment by returning the materials to where they belong. We enjoy messy activities (cooking, play dough, sand and water activities, collections of rocks and leaves) and wanted to combine exploration in an overall orderly classroom."

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Former gansters (kindergarteners) were delighted to return after the summer to see their renovated classroom. Their excitement reflects their feelings about their school as their home. At the end of the day, the feeling of the children is most critical! "It's real cool," says first grader Jonah Seinfeld-Chopp. "I like the new carpet and the colored paint on the walls," added first grader Adam Singer. And what did the current kindergartners have to say? "I like everywhere," said Maiya Atzmon and Raviv Kaskowitz. "Yeah, everything," confirmed Maddy Grand! ■

1 Dina Pedersen helps organize the materials.

2 Parent volunteers Jody Atzmon and Guy Shani put together furniture.

3 Michael Pedersen gets ready to paint the wall.

JCC youth programs

Deborah Huerta, special to the WJN

JCC welcomes new Afterschool Programs Coordinator

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor has hired Shoshana Jackson as the new JCC Afterschool Programs Coordinator for the 2010-2011 school year. Jackson has helped the JCC's afterschool programs get off to a great start this year. Students have been enjoying creative art projects, fun gym games, helpful homework sessions, and plenty of time outdoors on the playground.

Jackson first joined the JCC staff last year as the assistant camp director for Camp Raanana, and is very excited to continue her involvement with the JCC during the school year. She grew up in Ann Arbor and attended Broward College in Florida. Since returning to Ann Arbor several years ago, Jackson has been taking education classes at Eastern Michigan University and teaching at Temple Beth Emeth and the Reconstructionist Havurah. Before becoming the assistant director for Camp Raanana, she also worked as the assistant director at Camp Deer Trails, a residential Girl Scouts camp. Jackson lives with her husband and son in Milan.

Shoshana Jackson

The JCC's afterschool programs serve students at Hebrew Day School and other local elementary schools. The programs run from 3:20–6 p.m. daily and offer a variety of scheduling options. Registrations are accepted throughout the school year.

JCC hosts Kid's Night Out October 9

Every other month, the JCC offers a Kids' Night Out event, featuring games, crafts, dinner, and a movie or other special activities. The first Kids' Night Out of the year will be held on Saturday, October 9, from 6:30–10 p.m. at the JCC.

The Kids' Night Out event will begin with a fun Hawaiian style luau dance party, complete with decorations, prizes, games, and songs. Participants will then enjoy a pizza dinner and a viewing of *Lilo & Stitch*, a delightful movie chronicling the adventures of a Hawaiian girl who adopts a very unusual pet.

Kids' Night Out events are open to JCC members and non-members in grades K–5. The cost for JCC members is $20 (additional siblings: $18). The cost for non-members is $25 (additional siblings: $23). Registrations and payment are due by Thursday, October 7. Registration forms are available at the JCC and on the JCC website. ■

For more information about the JCC's youth programs, contact Deborah Huerta at deborahhuerta@jccfed.org or 971-0990.

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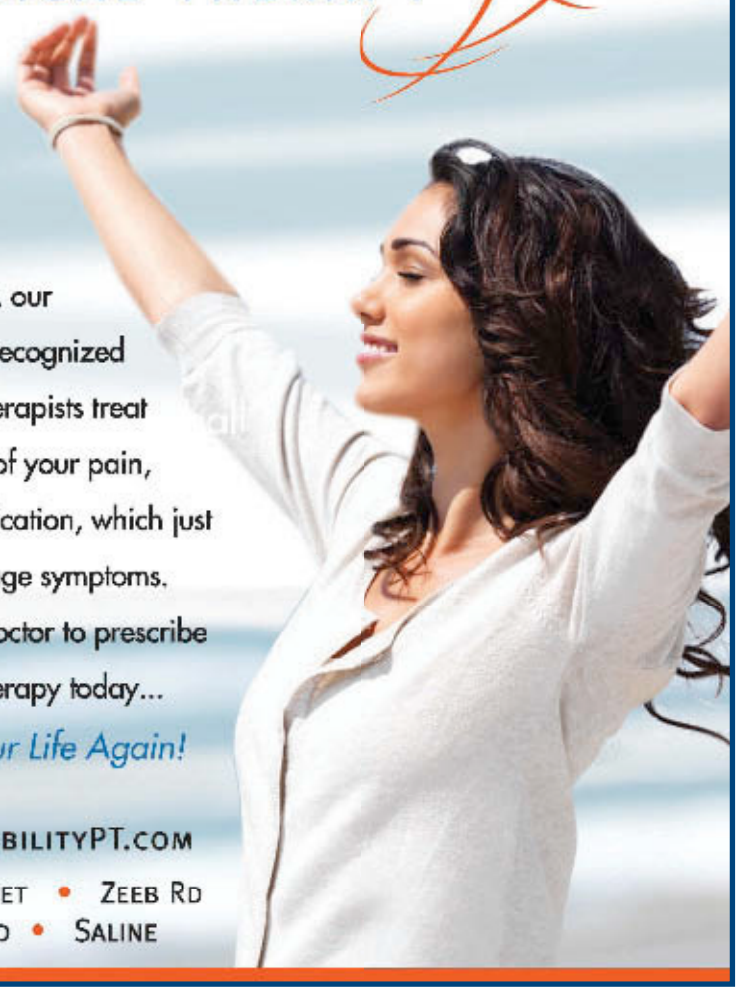

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Building community through family programs at the ECC

Peretz Hirshbein, special to the WJN

As the school year begins at the JCC Early Childhood Center, the teachers in each of its classrooms work hard to create classroom communities, where each child feels like an integral part of the whole, a valuable member of the group. Just as importantly, a new year means new families at the ECC, many of whom are new to Ann Arbor, who also need incorporating into the larger community. The ECC's mission is not only to nurture children; it also seeks to build a sense of community among the families it serves.

Over the years the ECC has developed many family programs that serve to bring families together to create and build relationships, many of which last long past the time their children are enrolled in the center. Families look forward to Shabbat dinners and intergenerational holiday celebrations year after year. This year the ECC will have a mixture of family programs that are longtime favorites, and some that are brand new.

Family Shabbat dinners, each hosted by an ECC classroom will be back again this year, on October 8, January 14, February 11, March 11, and May 13. The March dinner is only a week before Purim, and will feature a Purim theme, with costumes and a Purim spiel. The May dinner is a few days after Yom Ha'Atzmaut, features Israeli dancing and cuisine! These dinners have been terrific times for families to get to know one another better, and to catch up with old friends away from the hustle and bustle of the week.

Sara Adler with her daughter Eliana and her mother Juanita O'Donnell attend Grandparent Shabbat in June of 2010.

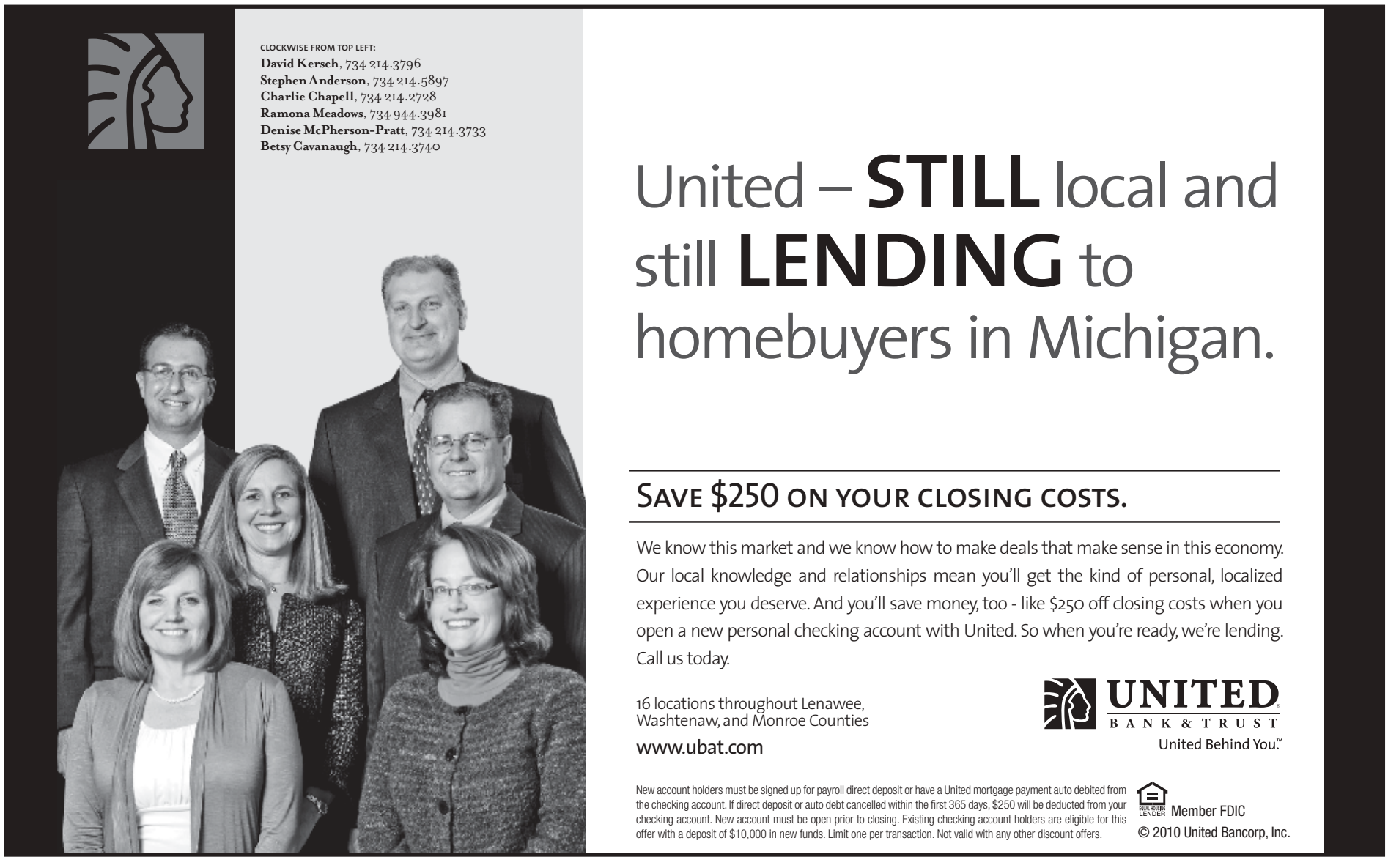
Carrie Thorpe with her son Adam and her father Mike Fried attending the Intergenerational Hanukkah party in December 2009.

Intergenerational programming also continues this year, with celebrations of Hanukkah, Passover, and Shabbat. The annual Intergeneration Hanukkah party will be held on December 7, while the Intergenerational Passover Seder will take place on April 14. A much newer favorite event, the Grandparent and Special Friend Shabbat Luncheon will be held on June 3.

October will see the start of a new, recurring program for parents: on the first Monday of the month, parents can gather after drop-off for bagels and coffee, and then join the children for Havdallah.

The ECC's emphasis on gardening has given birth to some new family programs. Late September saw the ECC's first ever Harvest dinner, held during Sukkot. A pot luck, this dinner featured dishes made with the produce from the gardens of ECC families, as well as the ECC's own garden! Building on the interest that ECC families have had in gardening, the ECC will have a Garden Workday on October 24 to put the garden to bed for the winter. ■

For more information about the JCC Early Childhood Center, contact Noreen DeYoung at 971-0990 or email her at noreendeyoung@jccfed.org. Information is also available on the JCC's website: www.jccannarbor.org.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In France, Masorti struggles for a foothold

By Sue Fishkoff

PARIS (JTA)—At 6 p.m. on a Friday, Rabbi Yeshaya Dalsace was in the kitchen making hummus. He had finished vacuuming the living room, where Shabbat services would soon start. The first worshipers to arrive were put to work setting up chairs and arranging platters of cucumbers and tomatoes.

Dalsace is the spiritual leader of Dor Vador, a 60-member Masorti congregation in Paris. Dor Vador is one of six congregations in France affiliated with Masorti Europe, the European equivalent of the North American Conservative movement.

On a shoestring budget, like the others, it is run out of Dalsace's apartment.

"When I need to buy supplies, like books, I have to ask the members," the rabbi said.

Unlike its North American counterpart, which has been losing members for more than a decade, the Masorti movement in Europe is growing. Wedged between the larger and better supported Progressive (Reform) movement and the Orthodox establishment, which controls Jewish life in most European countries, the continent's smaller Masorti congregations have growing appeal for younger Jews. The growth is particularly apparent in France, home to an estimated 600,000 Jews.

Overwhelmingly Sephardic since the 1960s, when Jews from the former French colonies of North Africa poured in to replenish a community decimated in the Holocaust, French Jews tend toward the traditional. But their observance level is rarely as strict as the Ashkenazi-flavored Orthodox Judaism of the Consistoire, the country's Jewish governing body, which controls access to rabbis, mohels, kosher meat and burial rites.

Just 5 to 8 percent of French Jews identify as Orthodox, according to recent surveys.

"I like this philosophy better," said 30-year-old Devorah Cohen.Like many members of French Masorti communities, Cohen grew up in a Consistoire-affiliated synagogue but has spent the past four years with Dor Vador, which she said suits her lifestyle and values. "They don't say do this and don't do that. They explain why," she said. "I think Masorti speaks to French people more than the Consistoire." Yet in a country so dominated by one Jewish stream, few French Jews understand what Masorti is all about.

"It's a chronic problem of the Conservative movement," said Rabbi Rivon Krygier, a Conservative rabbi in Paris. "It's difficult to position oneself in the middle." French Masorti Judaism is much more traditional than Conservative Judaism in the United States; it's closer to the Canadian model.

"I observe *kashrut, niddah*, all the *halachah*," said Dalsace, using the Hebrew word for Jewish law and referring to kosher and ritual purity laws.

A native Frenchman, Dalsace grew up Orthodox but became disillusioned with what he said was the Consistoire's rightward march.

"I'm closer to Modern Orthodox, like most European Masorti Jews," he said.

The major distinction from Orthodoxy is egalitarianism, though the Masorti congregation in Marseilles uses a *mechitzah*, or barrier between the sexes, during worship. The country's Masorti movement also welcomes conversion, and is active in interfaith work and environmental issues.

France's first Masorti congregation, Adath Shalom, was founded on the west side of Paris in 1987 by a group of 50 families that broke away from a Liberal (Reform) synagogue. When the Belgian-born Krygier was hired in 1990, newly ordained from the Conservative Schechter Institute in Jerusalem, some of the founding families left, afraid the congregation would become "too Orthodox," Krygier recalls.

With more than 300 dues-paying members, Adath Shalom has outgrown its rented space and has more than 100 students enrolled in its 3-year-old day school, run in conjunction with two Liberal congregations.

Of France's Masorti communities, three have rabbis and three are lay-led. The country's newest affiliate, in St. Germain en Laye, a Paris suburb, joined in July, and a small group of young Jews in Paris are creating La Schule, a Masorti-friendly minyan, or prayer community.

Audrey Berkovics, 28, is among the younger set of French Jews trying out Masorti. She showed up recently for a picnic in Paris organized by Marom, the Masorti youth movement, where nearly 80 Jews in their 20s and 30s enjoyed sandwiches, wine and guitar playing. "This attracts me, the joie de vivre," Berkovics said.

But as someone who attends Chabad services and Consistoire-affiliated Orthodox synagogues, she also said some things "shock" her. "Men and women mixed, women wearing tefillin–I'm not used to it," she said.

Noemie Taylor, 27, is a Marom activist who also is involved with La Schule. Raised with no religion, like most citizens of this heavily secular country, Taylor became attracted to Judaism and converted through the Masorti movement in 2008. Her Jewish boyfriend broke up with her, telling her that converts aren't really Jewish.

That's typical of French Jews, she says.

"They're very closed, I guess because of anti-Semitism and because religion is a private thing in France," Taylor said.

Marom activities are organized through e-mail and Facebook, and range from group trips to Jewish exhibits and concerts to picnics and holiday parties. Masorti's outsider status attracts intellectuals and spiritual seekers, Taylor and her friends say. The movement also draws single Jews looking for other single Jews. "People come because it's a good group of young Jews, not because we're Masorti," said Pierre Stanislawski-Birencwajg, 36. "Most young French Jews are not religious. In Marom, we introduce people to each other, we introduce them to a Jewish identity, and even to the religion. We try to adapt to how French people live."

The French Masorti movement operates with little money or infrastructure. Membership dues at Dor Vador bring in just $18,000 a year, so Dalsace is a part-time rabbi. He supplements his salary by teaching, running the movement's website and leading monthly services in Marseilles.

In order to rent the apartment that functions as his congregation's synagogue–he shares the dwelling with his wife and five children–Dalsace had to pay the bank guarantee from his own pocket. He and his wife cook the Shabbat dinners for the congregation.

In the absence of enough rabbis, the French Masorti leadership is trying to train young adults as lay leaders. Taylor was part of a small group that met with the three French rabbis in May to set up a training program for this fall.

Several French Jewish foundations help out with funding, but there is little support from the North American Conservative movement aside from the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, the umbrella group for some 250 Conservative men's clubs. The federation's executive director, Rabbi Charles Simon, has mentored several of the French Masorti congregations, raising funds to send them everything from Torahs to rabbinical students.

An additional challenge is attracting young Sephardim.

While half of Adath Shalom's membership is Sephardic, and the Marseilles congregation much more so, the movement as a whole is identified as "an American thing," Masorti activists acknowledge. La Schule, which has some Sephardic leadership, is trying to change that but it's still a struggle.

"I believe the Masorti movement has a future in France," Krygier said. "But it will be a very big battle." ■

European Conservatives, the new kids on the block, making strides

By Sue Fishkoff

LONDON (JTA)—A recent survey of British Jewry showed a decline in every Jewish denomination since 1990 except for two groups: the strictly Orthodox haredi and the Masorti, or Conservative movement. Over those 20 years, both have nearly doubled.

Researchers behind the report, published in May by the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Institute for Jewish Policy Research, understood the haredi growth: Strictly Orthodox Jews have large families, and almost all of them join synagogues. But why were the British Masorti numbers up?

They're up across Europe. Over the last three years, the number of Masorti communities on the continent has increased by 50 percent, from 20 to 30 congregations. It's still the smallest Jewish denomination in Europe, but it's growing the fastest.

Masorti leaders say it's because they're the new kids on the block.

"Unlike the Conservative movement in the United States, where they are the establishment, the mainstream, in Europe we are young, exciting, the new thing, experimental," said Rabbi Chaim Weiner, the London-based president of Masorti Europe, the umbrella body for Conservative communities in Europe.

There are 12 Masorti communities in Britain, six in France, and one each in Brussels, Stockholm, Prague, Budapest and the Dutch city of Almeer. Spain has a few, as does Germany, and there are ties to groups in Portugal.

Despite the growth, the overall Masorti numbers pale compared to the Orthodox movement, which dominates religious life across the continent. Masorti is also much smaller than the Progressive, or Reform movement, which claims 150 affiliated congregations in Europe, including 80 in Britain.

Masorti draws from both those movements, Weiner says, attracting disaffected Orthodox Jews as well as Reform Jews interested in more tradition.

Rabbi Andrew Goldstein, chairman of the European Union for Progressive Judaism, says that at least in Britain, Masorti growth comes primarily from the Modern Orthodox community, which has declined by a third since 1990, according to the study.

In fact, the first British Masorti congregation, New London Synagogue, broke away from an Orthodox congregation in 1964 and the third, Edgware Masorti, broke away from a Reform congregation in 1980.

Masorti Judaism in Europe is closer to the Canadian or Israeli model of Conservative practice, although some of the communities—like in Prague, which is led by an American rabbi—look more like their U.S. counterparts. This affects everything from egalitarianism to attitudes toward intermarriage.

About half the British Masorti synagogues maintain gender-separate seating during worship, but most European Masorti communities do not. Four of the movement's 15 or 16 European rabbis are women.

By the same token, attitudes toward intermarriage are more lenient on the continent but less so in Britain, according to Michael Gluckman, executive director of the British Assembly of Masorti Synagogues.

Potential converts to Judaism, as well as Jews involved in mixed marriages, are among those most often drawn to Masorti communities in Europe, Gluckman said.

Five years ago, a European-wide Masorti beit din, or rabbinic court, was established to standardize conversions and other Jewish legal procedures. It's all part of the movement's struggle to parlay its recent growth into real establishment.

"For the movement to thrive in Europe, each small community has to be able to provide the full range of rabbinic services, from conversion to divorce," said Weiner, who heads the new Masorti rabbinic court.

"Even a few years ago, people didn't believe it was worth making a commitment to us," he said. "Now our profile has crossed the threshold, and communities are coming to us wanting to join." ■

In new play, Patinkin tackles an Anne Frank obsession

By Sue Fishkoff

BERKELEY, Calif. (JTA)—Mandy Patinkin says he only plays Jewish characters.

Che Guevara, his Tony Award-winning role in the 1980 Broadway play, *Evita*? Jewish. Inigo "prepare to die" Montoya in *The Princess Bride*? Also Jewish.

"Everything I do is Jewish. It's who I am. It's my soul," said Patinkin, 57, whose 30-year career on stage and screen ranges from Barbra Streisand's love interest in *Yentl* to *Mamaloshen*, his traveling celebration of Yiddish music.

Patinkin spoke to JTA from the rehearsal space at the Berkeley Repertory Theater, where he was preparing for the September opening of *Compulsion*, a new play about the world's enduring fascination with Anne Frank.

Compulsion is playwright Rinne Groff's fictionalized tale of the true story of Meyer Levin, an ambitious writer obsessed for 30 years with producing his own theatrical version of Anne's diary, a right he claims was stolen from him by the people behind the 1955 Broadway play *The Diary of Anne Frank*. The new play is a co-production of the Yale Repertory Theatre, where it premiered in January; Berkeley Rep, where it runs through October 31; and the Public Theater in New York, where it opens next February.

The intensity Patinkin brings to his work stands him in good stead to play Sid Silver, the Levin character in *Compulsion*. Silver, like Levin, is seared by images from the concentration camps and absorbed with bringing what he believed was Anne's true message to the world versus what he called the "de-Judaized" version of the Broadway play and later Hollywood film.

"Anne was not a universalist, she was a Jewish idealist," Patinkin said. "That was the core of [Levin's] argument."

It was playwrights Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett and producer Kermit Bloomgarden who universalized Anne's story for American audiences in the 1950s. That was their goal, Groff says, perhaps understandably. Anne's diary was, after all, the first widely published account of the horrors of the Holocaust, before the searing works by Elie Wiesel and Primo Levi.

Groff's play "didn't just speak to me, it shouted at me," said Patinkin, who read the script last year and immediately told director Oskar Eustis it would be "illegal" for the play to be put on without him. "I was stunned at how it hit a nerve in my soul, on so many levels."

Patinkin says his Jewish identity was "shaken to the core" by a recent trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau and Theresienstadt concentration camps.

"It was the sound of the train tracks that finally undid me," he said. "I was headed back to Warsaw to continue to other places, and I had to stop; I couldn't go any further. I couldn't separate out how I was going to get off, go to a pretty hotel and have a nice meal, but if I closed my eyes, those sounds would have been taking me to a gas chamber."

Saying he "can't understand" how people can sit by and let something like the Holocaust happen, Patinkin added, "You can say I'm naive, that I don't get it, but neither did Anne. She believed, as she says repeatedly and as we repeat in this play, that people are really good at heart."

But *Compulsion* isn't about Anne. It's about one man's obsession with Anne and, by extension, Groff says, the notion of many that only they truly understand the young diarist.

That was Levin's *mishegas*, too. He read Anne's diary in the late 1940s and extracted a verbal agreement from her father, Otto, to the stage rights. But Levin's version was deemed unsuitable, other writers were brought in and Levin sued the bunch of them, including Otto Frank. He won, they appealed and the case was settled by a panel of "Jewish experts" who awarded Levin $15,000 in damages while ordering him to give up his quest.

Levin never did, and that's the heart of *Compulsion*.

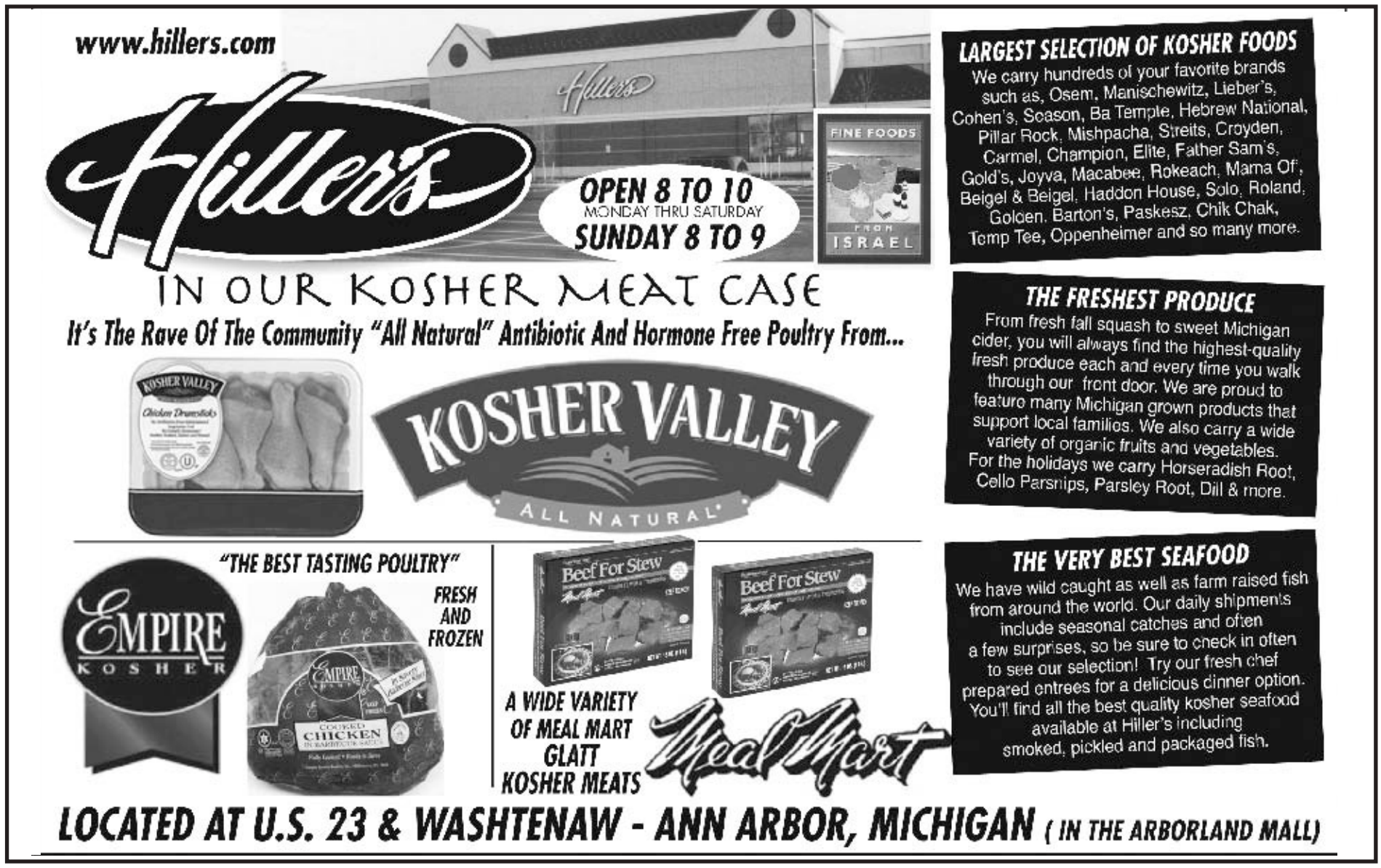
Patinkin has a long involvement with Jewish and Israeli causes. He received the 2000 Peace Award from Americans for Peace Now, is a board member of the Jewish sustainability nonprofit Hazon and supports the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies.

He said his activism stems from the lessons he learned growing up at Rodfei Zedek on Chicago's South Side, as well as at the family dinner table. "Forgiveness, compassion—*rachmones*—and *tikkun olam*," Patinkin said. "It's pretty simple. Repair the world—my world, your world, our children's world, the Middle East world, the world of the environment, health care, ethics, all those worlds."

Years ago, New York theater impresario Joseph Papp told him to be careful what opinions he expressed about Israel in Jewish circles.

"He said, you're going to make a good deal of your living from your community, and if you offend them, they may take a long time, if ever, to forgive you. So understand the risk," Patinkin recalls. But, Patinkin says, the "desperate need" for peace in the Middle East leaves no room for niceties.

"We need to show we as a Jewish community are doing everything we can to heal [Palestinian] hurt," he said emphatically. "And if they don't have the means to heal ours right now, like the Torah says, the greatest gift you can give is the eulogy at another man's funeral because he can't give it back. The reasons are unimportant—stop it now." ■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Apples and Honey, 2010

Halye Aisner, special to the WJN

Nearly 500 community members attended Apples and Honey, the community celebration of the fall Jewish holidays, held each year at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. Representatives from local Jewish organizations and several vendors participated in the event, where they handed out literature and sold everything from children's books and games to baked goods, Judaica and artwork. Children's events included bouncers, a merry-go-round, face painting, cookie decorating, crafts and more. Stoneyfield Farms handed out free yogurt, and apples and honey were donated by Hillers Market. There was also a newcomers' table where the JCC welcomed new families to the Ann Arbor area. Each family was greeted and given a bag filled with goodies from the Jewish agencies. ■

Tablet

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OCTOBER

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Three Different Programs!

Paul Taylor Dance Company

Paul Taylor artistic director

Thursday, October 7 | 8 PM
Friday, October 8 | 8 PM
Saturday, October 9 | 1 PM (ONE-HOUR FAMILY PERFORMANCE)
Saturday, October 9 | 8 PM
POWER CENTER

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Mariinsky Orchestra

Formerly known as the Kirov Orchestra
Valery Gergiev artistic director and principal conductor
Denis Matsuev piano

Sunday, October 10 | 4 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM
Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 3 in d minor, Op. 30 (1900-01)
Mahler Symphony No. 5 (1901-02)

10/11 MAJOR ORCHESTRAS SPONSORED BY FOREST HEALTH SERVICES

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Schubert Cycle Concert 1

Takács Quartet

Jeffrey Kahane piano

Thursday, October 14 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM
Schubert Quartettsatz in c minor, D. 703 (1820)
Schubert Piano Sonata in B-flat Major, D. 960 (Op. Poth.) (1828)
Daniel Kellogg Soft Sleep Shall Contain You: A Meditation on Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" (2010)
Schubert String Quartet in d minor, D. 810 ("Death and the Maiden") (1824)

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Jerusalem Quartet

Thursday, October 21 | 8 PM
RACKHAM AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM
Mendelssohn Quartet in e minor, Op. 44, No. 2 (1837)
Mark Kopytman String Quartet No. 3 (1969)
Brahms Quartet in c minor, Op. 51, No. 1 (1873)

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MEDIA PARTNERS **WGTE 91.3 FM** AND **DETROIT JEWISH NEWS.**

Hibiki: Resonance from Far Away

Sankai Juku

Ushio Amagatsu director, choreographer, and designer

Saturday, October 23 | 8 PM
Sunday, October 24 | 2 PM
POWER CENTER

FUNDED IN PART BY THE **JAPAN FOUNDATION** THROUGH THE ***PERFORMING ARTS JAPAN*** PROGRAM.
MEDIA PARTNERS **METRO TIMES** AND **BETWEEN THE LINES.**

The Seasons Project

Venice Baroque Orchestra
Robert McDuffie violin soloist/leader

Wednesday, October 27 | 8 PM
HILL AUDITORIUM

PROGRAM
Vivaldi The Four Seasons, Op. 8 (1723)
Glass Violin Concerto No. 2: "The American Four Seasons" (2009)

MEDIA PARTNER **WGTE 91.3 FM.**

Django Reinhardt's 100th Birthday Celebration

The Hot Club of San Francisco
The Hot Club of Detroit

Friday, October 29 | 8 PM
MICHIGAN THEATER

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Simon McBurney director

Sunday, October 31 | 2 PM
MICHIGAN THEATER

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Wendy Zohar, instrumental teacher

San Slomovits, staff writer

Wendy Zohar teaches violin and viola in her own studio, to students ranging from young children to adults. She also works with the children at Beth Israel's Sunday school, teaching Hebrew and religious songs, singing and movement. We began by talking about her instrumental teaching style.

Zohar: I use Suzuki materials, and Suzuki spirit, based on an understanding of how children learn, the gentleness and love of the learning process that Suzuki pursued so beautifully. But mine is an eclectic approach which includes the sum of my training, which was largely Galamian influenced. (Ivan Galamian was a highly influential violin pedagogue of the latter half of the twentieth century.) My earliest studies were with a teacher who'd studied with Gingold, (Josef Gingold was another prominent 20th century violinist and pedagogue) so I'm really drawing from the sun and the moon. I feel fortunate to have worked with wonderful teachers. In teaching I synthesize all my training, including the Kodály approach, which is more singing oriented, where we feel and approach the music from the basis of solfège and rhythm, from hearing and then singing as part of a whole melody.

WJN: How and why music? Did you grow up in a house filled with music, or were you one of those kids who said out of the blue, "I want to play the violin."

Zohar: A little of both. There was music in the house all the time. My parents loved to collect records, especially the Folkway records. They collected music from all over the world. They loved African music, tribal drumbeats, river chants, and guitar; also songs of the South African Veld by Marais and Miranda. I was hearing all kinds of sounds and languages. I guess now it's called "world music." I remember a record of music from Afghanistan, very exotic sounds, which I loved; also Rumanian music with wonderful folk instruments and dizzying rhythms. They also collected blues, Leadbelly, Josh White, spirituals with Marian Anderson, and Americana stuff, a lot of Burl Ives, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie and the Weavers. There were even some records of classical music! So I grew up on all this. On family trips, my dad and mom loved to sing, and my brothers and I joined in. There were camp songs, funny songs and ballads, a lot of sea chanteys. My dad knew all the lyrics, it was quite amazing. That is my earliest memory of loving music, through singing and listening, and it's all part of my family lore. But neither of my parents is a trained musician.

In fourth grade I started learning violin, at first in group lessons at my elementary school in Parma, Ohio (a suburb of Cleveland). Through high school I continued with violin lessons. All the academic subjects interested me, and since I was a serious student, I often found myself at the edge of saying, "Oh, this is just too much work!" (Laughter) But I kept going, and a high point was playing the Mendelssohn Concerto with my high school orchestra.

I attended the University of Cincinnati, College-Conservatory of Music on full academic scholarship, and studied with Henry Meyer, of the LaSalle Quartet in residence there. He was an Auschwitz survivor. I recall he wore short-sleeved shirts, with his tattooed number on his arm showing. He was a complicated character, a very private person, but a warm and wonderful teacher. Some of his non-Jewish students from the Midwest would ask him, "Mr. Meyer, what are those numbers on your arm?" And he would joke and say, "Oh, it's so I can tell the time." But he never covered up that arm.

My second year of college I went to Israel to study with Ramy Shevelov at the Rubin Academy of Music, at Tel-Aviv University. This was a turning point in my life, musically, spiritually and personally. He helped me find the depth in each phrase, listening, discovering the expression, and discovering myself, throughout the music. It altered my life and to this day affected how I play and how I teach. I also loved being in Israel and made a decision to come back one day!

Wendy Zohar

After finishing my degree in Cincinnati, I moved to Boston, studied with Max Hobart of the Boston Symphony and played in the Boston Civic Orchestra under Ben Zander, and then headed to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where I was on a graduate quartet fellowship. I studied with violinist Tom Moore and members of the Pro Arte Quartet, in Madison, Wisconsin, and after finishing a master of music degree, I auditioned and was accepted to play in the Galilee Orchestra. It was a newly formed ensemble, in northern Israel. I feel then that my life was flowing with the waves, moving forward with yet-to-be-revealed adventures and opportunities that kept landing in my lap. At each turn, as a new door opened, I went.

WJN: Did you speak Hebrew by then?

Zohar: My Hebrew studies really started when I was a kid, but it didn't feel like formal Hebrew studies. I'd been to Habonim summer camp (Tavor) as a kid, where I was exposed to lots of Hebrew words and songs, and then my bat mitzvah studies. By then I was just having fun learning to read the Torah text in Hebrew. When I was in high school, I wanted to learn more Torah so I asked one of the synagogue elders at Beth Israel-West Temple in Cleveland if he would work with me, and he was delighted. So we started one-on-one tutoring in greater depth, and I was fascinated. Through all that I learned a good bit of Hebrew.

WJN: And conversational Hebrew?

Zohar: I first picked up conversational Hebrew in Ulpan (intense Hebrew course) at TAU, when I first went to Israel. I gained basic speaking knowledge within a few weeks and felt immediately at home in Hebrew, almost as if it had been there all along, in my blood. I couldn't explain it, but it felt very easy, almost intuitive, to learn Hebrew.

After graduate school, my return to Israel really felt like coming home and I loved being back. But unfortunately the Galilee orchestra fell apart after less than a year. It left an awful lot of people dangling, and most left the country, wandered off to play in European orchestras, or came back to the States to pursue other goals. I auditioned and was admitted to the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra and played there for the next ten years. Those were fantastic years for me. We worked with top conductors and soloists from all over the world, including Rudolph Barshai, Dimitri Markevitch, Sir Roger Norrington, and Sir Neville Marriner, and soloists we performed with included Rostropovich and his wife Galina, Arthur Rubinstein, Yehudi Menuhin, Henryk Szeryng, Isaac Stern, Emmanuel Ax, Mischa Maisky and Yefim Bronfman, heroes standing two feet from where I sat in the violin section. My colleagues, the members of the JSO, were also great players and colorful characters from all around the world. We toured Europe frequently and it was a thrill to play in such places as the Royal Festival Hall in London, and the acoustically perfect hall of the Berlin Philharmonic, to rave reception everywhere we went.

A few years after settling in Jerusalem I got married and had twin boys. We eventually moved to London so my husband, an artist, could pursue a wider range of markets for his work. While we were there I played in the Primavera Chamber Orchestra, which also was touring. I also had my third child, so I was busy! I was recitaling, playing benefit concerts, meeting people, really enjoying it. And then, sadly, things changed and we ended up separating. I chose to come back to the States with my three children. I returned to Cleveland and, after a year of searching for a way to make a living, went to law school, which is something it seems many people do when they're not sure what to do.

One of the most formative things that had happened to me, when I was growing up, in the early 1960s: We had just moved to Cleveland. My father and a small handful of friends started a committee, an offshoot of the social action committee of the West Temple, to take up a major issue, to try to make a change in the world, a Tikkun Olam kind of a change. My father was still deeply troubled about the inaction of American Jewry in the face of the mounting evidence of European anti-Semitism, of the events in Germany in the 30s that led up to the Holocaust and the loss of six million Jews, and how the American Jewish community as a whole was mute. We could have been much more effective in moving the U.S. government to make changes, and didn't until it was too late. The committee realized that the same kind of thing was happening in the Soviet Union, but that if they didn't take the moment to do something about it, three million more Jews were in danger of being extinguished as Jews. Maybe not killed outright as the Nazis did, but there was a state sponsored, rampant anti-Semitism that was snuffing out Jewish religious and cultural life, even though the Soviet Union did a lot to cover it up.

So the Cleveland Committee on Soviet Anti-Semitism pursued it, reading and discovering all they could, and met with statesmen who had some knowledge of the U.S.S.R. This was in the days before the Internet. I guess you could say that my father was the secretary, writer, mover, the thinking head of CCSAS. And its message blossomed, drew attention and gathered steam throughout the late 1960s and early 1970s when a lot of Americans, even congressmen, started going over to Russia. But it actually started at our house in the early 1960s around our coffee table. There were newsletters, vigils and protests. During the time of cultural exchange with the Soviet Union, when the Moscow Circus, or the Bolshoi Ballet made appearances, we'd be outside picketing with signs, "Let our People Go," "Free the Jews," "Stop Anti-Semitism," to raise their awareness, to make them a little bit uncomfortable. It got on the news. And we hoped the word got back! The Iron Curtain was thick then, and very difficult to pierce. So the cultural exchanges were moments to be able to send a little bit of information back, through individuals and through news media, which irritated and embarrassed the Kremlin. This was long before people were starting to actually go, carrying boxes of matzot and prayer books, that all came later, after the movement grew.

When I went to Israel in 1971, I was so excited to meet many of the Russian Jews who had recently arrived. They were filling the music schools, filling the universities. This put a real face on those we had worked so hard to help free, though many years more of struggle remained for other dissidents and refuseniks.

So getting back to the subject of law school, I actually enjoyed it, got through in three years, passed the bar, and practiced law for about ten years. One of the things that had drawn me into law was working for the Resettlement Committee at the Jewish Family Services Association in Cleveland, helping the many Russians who were by then settling in Cleveland. I was teaching citizenship skills and I realized that if I were an attorney there was a lot more things I could do for them. So, when I did become an attorney I continued working for JFSA.

WJN: It brought you full circle back to the experiences you had growing up in your parents' home.

Zohar: Sure. That's right. Decades later, my dad and his colleagues had become like superstars in the community of Jewish Russian refugees in Cleveland.

WJN: What is your dad's name?

Zohar: Herbert S. Caron. The Jewish Russian community in Cleveland has honored him greatly, and the people he worked with. Through my law practice, helping the Russians to complete their citizenship was a very satisfying and gratifying experience.

I also practiced family law, consumer protection, and labor law, focusing on discrimination, sexual harassment and

Continued on next page

On Shabbat, cholent offers comfort

By Linda Morel

NEW YORK (JTA)—At a surprise 40th birthday party for a friend, her mother stood at their stove stirring a huge cauldron of simmering stew.

The chicken, flanken, potatoes, carrots, dried peas and barley in the pot emitted an aroma that made the offerings prepared by the caterer brought in by my friend's husband pale in comparison.

"This is Lynda's favorite food," her mother said, dipping a ladle into the depth of the pot and asking me to take a taste.

I wasn't expecting to swoon.

"What is this?" I asked.

"Cholent, a Sabbath stew," she said. "But in our family, we eat it all the time."

This is party 22 years ago was the first time I had even heard the word.

I immediately asked for her recipe, which I have been making ever since.

A one-pot meal brimming with nutritious foods, cholent is a traditional Sabbath dish. However, it is usually served for lunch on Saturdays or as a hot meal immediately after the Havdalah service that brings Shabbat to an end.

Cholent is an ideal hot meal for Sabbath observers, who do not cook or perform any work from Friday at sundown until Shabbat ends 24 hours later.

My friend's mother, who was born in Germany in the 1920s, told me that every Friday before dusk the Jewish women in their neighborhood brought pots full of raw stew ingredients to the Jewish bakery. With sundown approaching, the women would place their stew pots in the oven, just minutes before the baker turned off his oven to observe Shabbat.

Over the next 24 hours, the meat, potatoes and barley, which started out swimming in water, turned into a chunky, mouth-watering cholent to be served steaming hot immediately after the Sabbath.

A signature dish of Ashkenazim, cholent can be made from almost anything. One reason is because in the Old Country, Jews were poor and threw any scrap of food they could find into their stews. However, a traditional cholent is made with meat and meat bones, potatoes, beans and barley. More modern recipes for vegetarian cholents dotted with tofu now abound.

Not to be outdone, Sephardim for centuries have prepared spectacular Sabbath stews infused with the most marvelous seasoning. These aromatic recipes are often called hamim, or hot Hebrew.

In Morocco, this style of stew is called Tagine, named for the conical pots in which the dish is prepared. Sabbath stews hail from Egypt, Iraq, Syria and any country where Jews have settled.

Jewish women in Morocco traditionally have paid a non-Jew to set up a pile of hot coals. Before sundown on the Sabbath, they carried their tagines full of stew ingredients and sunk them into the coals. Guarding against thieves, the non-Jew watched over their food, which barely bubbled on red hot coals that gradually cooled over the course of a full day.

The key to a good cholent, hamim or tagine is to gently simmer the medley of ingredients for many hours. Original recipes entailed 24 hours of low-heat cooking. However, many people new to this lengthy preparation are hesitant to keep food on a fire overnight while they are sleeping. Most recipes turn out well after six to eight hours with the right amount of water. Cholent is a flexible and forgiving dish that can be made in Crockpots, inside the oven or on a stovetop.

Detractors of cholent, and there only a few, complain that the stews are brown and unappetizing, with ingredients blurring together until they lose their characteristics. Yet I find the blend of flavors irresistible and have learned that by adding some ingredients with perky colors, such as tomatoes and carrots, you can overcome the potential of ending up with a khaki-colored meal.

I suggest serving rice with your stew of choice. It's easy to digest, and rice is a balanced accompaniment to a one-pot meal brimming with vegetables and chicken.

Whether it's cholent, hamim or tagine, a hearty hot stew on Shabbat carries the warmth and tradition that our ancestors bestowed on our parents and grandparents as they lit Sabbath candles every Friday evening. ■

A word about water

Most stew recipes do not indicate how much water is needed, which many cooks find maddening. However, it's almost impossible to gauge quantities of water because so many factors influence the result, such as temperature and consistency of the heat and the thickness of the pot.

However, if you add too much water to the pot, you'll end up with soup, which is not a terrible fate. Should this happen, it can be remedied by leaving the pot uncovered and raising the flame to cook off some of the excess water.

If you put too little water into the pot, the ingredients are in danger of drying out or even burning. You can always add more water and stir it to combine evenly.

Keep an eye on the pot to check for water levels. Stir at least once every half hour. Ideally the ingredients in your cholent should yield a thickened gravy. However, it doesn't matter how a cholent turns out because thick or thin, this foolproof dish is always delicious and sustaining. The recipes are by Linda Morel.

Chicken Tagine (Moroccan style)

No-stick vegetable spray, optional
8 skinless chicken thighs
4 white potatoes
1 large onion, chopped
1/2 teaspoon fresh ginger root, skinned and chopped
1 (28-ounce) can chopped tomatoes
1 (15.5 ounce) can chickpeas
2 or 3 zucchini, diced large, 4 tomatoes, chopped
1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
Salt to taste
8 tablespoons cilantro, minced

Use a large stockpot, preferably of the stick-resistant variety. If not using a stick-resistant pot, spray its interior generously with no-stick vegetable spray.

Rinse chicken under cold water place in the pot.

Scrape skin from potatoes and cut each into 8 chunks. To the pot, add chicken, potatoes, onion, ginger, canned tomatoes, chickpeas, zucchini, chopped tomatoes, cumin and cinnamon.

Add enough cold water to the pot to just cover the ingredients. They shouldn't slog around in excess water. Gently stir ingredients. Cover the pot and place it on a medium-high flame until the water simmers. Reduce to the lowest possible flame.

Let tagine simmer for 6 to 8 hours, or longer if you've got the time, until the gravy thickens. For safety sake, do not leave cholent pot unattended.

When ready, add salt to taste.

Serve over rice in large soup bowls. Garnish with cilantro, if using. Yield: 8 servings.

In another 10 to 15 minutes, rice should have absorbed all the water and be ready to eat. Take it off the flame and let it rest for 1-2 minutes in a covered pot. Move immediately into a serving bowl. At the table, spoon rice into individual soup bowls and ladle cholent or tagine on top of it. Yield: 8 servings.

Fool-proof rice (pareve)

3 tablespoons olive oil
2 cups of uncooked rice
4 1/4 cups water
Salt to taste

Rice may quadruple in size while cooking, so select a large, deep pot. Heat oil inside the pot on a medium flame for 1-2 minutes. Pour the rice into the pot and stir until each grain of rice is lightly coated with oil.

Add salt and stir to combine. However, for the erev Yom Kippur meal, use salt sparingly so as not to cause thirst and undue discomfort during the fast.

Continue stirring until rice appears translucent, about 2 more minutes. Pour in water and stir again. Cover pot and drop heat to a low flame.

Check rice's progress after 10 minutes. If it appears to be soaking up most of the water, add more water 1/4 cup at a time. Stir to combine and cover pot again.

Chicken cholent (Ashkenazi style)

4 sweet potatoes
8 carrots
1 parsnip
1 large onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
No-stick vegetable spray, optional
8 skinless chicken thighs
1 pound string beans, cut in half horizontally
1 tablespoon dill, minced
Salt to taste
8 tablespoons parsley, minced

Use a large stockpot, preferably of the stick-resistant variety. If not using a stick-resistant pot, spray its interior generously with no-stick vegetable spray.

Rinse chicken under cold water place in the pot.

Scrape skin from sweet potatoes and cut each into 8 chunks. Scrape carrots and parsnip and cut into 1-inch chunks. To the pot, add the sweet potatoes, carrots, parsnip, onion, garlic string beans and dill.

Add enough cold water to just cover the ingredients. They shouldn't slog around in excess water. Gently stir ingredients. Cover the pot and place it on a medium-high flame until the water simmers. Reduce to the lowest possible flame. Let cholent simmer for 6 to 8 hours, or longer if you've got the time, until the gravy thickens. For safety sake, do not leave cholent pot unattended.

Add salt to taste.

Serve over rice in large soup bowls. Garnish with parsley, if using.

Yield: 8 servings.

Wendy Zohar, continued from previous page

protection, and labor law, focusing on discrimination, sexual harassment and employment discrimination of all kinds. I enjoyed my law practice, but after my children graduated from high school and I was free of the daily child-care responsibilities, I started thinking about what I really wanted to do for the rest of my life. I realized that music is what I love and wanted to do most. At about the same time, I had visited Ann Arbor while on a tour for my one of my sons' college search, and I just fell in love with Ann Arbor. And I met somebody I was very interested in here, and so I decided to make the move to Ann Arbor.

WJN: When was that?

Zohar: 2004. I've been very happy here. Shortly after getting here I heard about Beth Israel, that they were looking for a music teacher. I had actually done this kind of work years ago, when my children were in the religious school at Beth Israel West Temple in Cleveland, I had been teaching music, singing, and a bit of Israeli dance steps to some of the songs. I'd also worked at a reform religious school when I was a graduate student, with kids, choirs, providing music at services, and so on. Jewish education is central and a crucial matter to me, and it feels like a kind of holy work. I'm excited to be sharing what I've learned now with youngsters, strengthening their Jewish identity and knowledge and their love of the Jewish people. And I'm still finding myself here in Ann Arbor, and discovering more of Ann Arbor and what its wonderful community holds. ■

Michael Oren, making the case for Obama

By Ron Kampeas

WASHINGTON (JTA)—Michael Oren outlines what may be his toughest assignment: Making the case to a skeptical public for a leader who's hard to pin down.

Pitching Bibi to the Americans?

No, that's an easy one.

The real problem for the Israeli ambassador to Washington is how to make Israelis understand President Obama.

"Obama often doesn't get the credit he deserves in Israel," Oren said in a pre-Rosh Hashanah interview with the U.S. Jewish media. "I think it's important at some point that he visits us."

The interview appeared to represent Oren's most intensive effort yet to counteract speculation in some Jewish and Israeli corners that the Obama administration has been chilly, if not outright hostile, toward the Netanyahu government. It comes at the start of renewed Israeli-Palestinian talks and a new anti-Iran sanctions regime, two developments seen as bolstering Israel's need to be seen as enjoying strong relations with the White House.

In the interview, Oren reviewed the strides of the past year and the challenges facing Israel and the Jewish world looking ahead.

Among the accomplishments, he counted the renewed peace talks with the Palestinians and overcoming the public disagreements between the United States and Israel over those talks. Along the same lines, he also listed his ability to settle public disagreements with J Street, a left-wing pro-Israel group that has faced heavy criticism from centrist and right-wing critics.

As for future challenges, Oren said the prospect of a nuclear Iran loomed large. Less threatening, but nonetheless clearly a concern for him, was handling criticism from pro-Israel hawks now that the Jewish state was plunging into peace talks that would involve compromise.

Oren, who was born and raised in New Jersey, brings to his understanding of the Obama administration the nuance of a historian versed in the trajectories of both nations. He said that a major part of his job is explaining the Obama administration to Israelis, through interviews with Israeli media.

"I try to put it in perspective, Israelis are tough," he said, using a Hebrew colloquialism that means "You can't put one over on them."

"I don't try to polish things up. We've had disagreements over settlements, we've had disagreements over Jerusalem—but you've got to see a big picture. The U.S.-Israel relationship is vast."

Oren went on to outline areas of cooperation—defense, commerce, intelligence sharing—that would characterize any American administration, Republican or Democrat, until a reporter asked the ambassador to get specific about Obama.

"I have a different take on the Cairo speech," Oren said, referring to Obama's June 2009 speech to the Muslim world.

The speech was lambasted in Israel and some U.S. Jewish circles for emphasizing Holocaust denial as an Arab failing but not making a broader case for ancient Jewish claims to Israel.

"A lot of people in Israel said the Cairo speech, they weren't thrilled with the Cairo speech. I said, wait a second, this is the first time a president of the United States has gone to the heart of the Arab world and introduced Israel's legitimacy, and said to the Arab world you've got to recognize the legitimate Jewish state," Oren said. "It was an amazing thing; he didn't get credit for it."

Oren also praised Obama for making good on his pledge to ramp up pressure on Iran through sanctions to make transparent its suspected nuclear program. The ambassador asserted that the multilateral sanctions are "biting" the Iranian regime.

"He's had a very robust position on Iran," the ambassador said. "Again, I don't think people understand fully just how determined he is to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons."

Tellingly, the success surprises Oren.

"We had the Iranian issue, which could have been the source of the greatest divisions between the Israeli and American governments, and over the course of this year you saw no daylight between our governments," he said.

Still, Oren implied that the harmony on this front might not last.

"They have not yet in any way stopped enriching uranium or pressing on with their nuclear program," he said of Iran. "So that's going to be the true test, six or nine months down the road we're going to have to reassess and see where the sanctions are going."

The Obama administration has said it wants a full year to test the Iranians. The Israeli and U.S. governments could conceivably fall out over whether a military strike is necessary to stop the nuclear program.

Oren played a role in speculation about U.S.-Israel differences when his conversations in conference calls with fellow diplomats were leaked to the media. His follow-up explanation at the time was the object of some derision: Oren insisted that he never said there was a "rift" in the relationship but a "shift."

He went some way in explaining the issue in his recent interview.

"The administration promised change, and it's an administration of change," he said. "Obama is not a status quo president; he promised change domestically, he promised a change in foreign policy. One of my jobs was to figure out what this change was and report it back."

Change is scary, Oren suggested, and Obama needed to make his case directly to the Israeli public.

"The timing has to be right," Oren said. "I think that when he does come, when he reaches out, I think there will be a greater sense of support for him. It will be very important for the peace process—we're going to be asked to take some big risks."

Restarting direct talks helped put behind Israel and the Palestinians the issues that had vexed them—settlements in the West Bank and building in eastern Jerusalem—for the moment. Oren noted that the end of a 10-month Israeli partial moratorium on settlement building looms Sept. 26, and that while Israel understands the pressures leading Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, to demand its extension, Netanyahu is under pressure, too.

Netanyahu's "credibility is an asset for the peace process," Oren said, anticipating a time—within a year, according to Israel's timetable—that Netanyahu will have to make the case to the Israeli public for territorial

Continued on page 30

Hot on cars, cold on Turkey, home expensive home

By Marcy Oster

JERUSALEM (JTA)—Here are some recent stories out of Israel that you may have missed.

Home, sweet, more expensive home

The cost of housing in Israel is rising through the roof and shows no signs of stopping.

The average price of an apartment rose more than 17 percent from June 2009 to June 2010.

Tel Aviv showed the largest increase, with the average price of a three-bedroom apartment jumping 32 percent to nearly $612,000. Other average increases: Haifa and Beersheba, 20 percent; Jerusalem, 19 percent; and Herzliya, 14 percent.

One reason for the ballooning prices: a shortage of new apartments for sale, according to the Bank of Israel. The bank believes that housing prices will continue to rise and has tried to cool of the market by raising interest rates.

Shalom salaam: Israeli kids study Arabic

Soon Jewish and Arabic kids will be speaking the same language.

Arabic language classes are expected to become compulsory soon for Israeli students beginning in grade 5. A pilot program in 170 schools in northern Israel was rolled out for the new school year.

More than 200 schools in the north of Israel, where Arabic is a common language, have signed on to the program. About 50 Arab teachers have been hired to teach in the program.

Israeli children begin compulsory English-language instruction in the third grade.

Students until now could choose among several languages to study as a second language from grades 7 to 10. The languages include Russian, French and Amharic.

Cow gone wild

An Israeli cow decided to pick up a few items at a local shopping center, leaving one woman injured and damaging several cars.

The cow, part of a herd grazing near a shopping center in Haifa, charged through the shopping center in Nesher after appearing to become irritated. It rampaged through the area for nearly an hour, sending terrified shoppers running into stores for protection.

"People saw death ash before their eyes," a paramedic on the scene told Ynet.

Hit the road, Jack

Prototypes of an electric car made specifically for Israel have hit the road for field tests.

Renault sent the cars to Israel in August to check them out in extreme heart conditions.

Israel is set next year to become one of the first markets for electric cars with a quick-change station, where cars can stop and pick up a freshly charged battery for immediate use.

Make mine tap water

Israeli government minister's heads no longer will be hidden by bottles of mineral water during Cabinet meetings -- Cabinet Secretary Zvi Hauser will now be serving tap water during meetings.

The Forum of Water Corporations had written a letter to Hauser telling him that it was difficult for the public to believe in the quality of the country's water when its leaders were drinking water from a bottle.

The move was undertaken to prove to the Israeli public that Israeli tap water is safe to drink, as well as less expensive.

Hauser also is responsible for replacing the meetings' weekly spread of bourekas with vegetables, fruits, granola and yogurt.

Cold on Turkey

Despite Turkey's best public relations efforts, Israelis are finding other attractive tourist destinations to replace Turkey.

Israeli tourism to Turkey has declined by as much as 90 percent in the past year, more specifically since the Gaza flotilla incident in May.

The number of Israeli tourists who traveled to Turkey in July was down 90 percent to 4,500 tourists, compared to 43,000 in July 2009 and 78,000 in July 2008, according to Haaretz. June saw a similar drop.

In all, Israeli travel to Turkey is down 40 percent for the year compared to 2009.

Israelis have cut back on travel to Turkey as relations between the two countries continues to sour, beginning with the December 2008 outbreak of the monthlong Gaza war.

Quite a tomato

An Israeli company says it has developed a tomato that does not need to be refrigerated.

Hazera Genetics says its Antonella tomato will not rot outside of the refrigerator, even in Israel's extreme summer heat, and also will retain its firmness and flavor, according to the company.

The hothouse-grown tomato could command about 10 percent of the Israeli tomato market.

Israelis consume more tomatoes than any other vegetable.

OpEd: Stand strong against Islamaphobia

By Yonah Lieberman and Alex Levy

In September, our nation commemorated the ninth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. That day unified us as Americans. But at the very same time, it divided us across religious lines and amplified anti-Muslim stereotypes.

Over the past few months, this anti-Muslim sentiment has reared its ugly head across the nation. In May, a man brought a pipe bomb into a Florida mosque during daily prayers and set it off. In late August, a cab driver in New York City was stabbed by his passenger after the passenger found out the drive was Muslim.

Most prominent in the news is the controversial Park51 Islamic community center in New York City, not far from Ground Zero. Created for the purpose of social and cultural activities, it has been inaccurately portrayed by some news media and many renowned pundits as a radical Islamic headquarters and terrorist haven in one of America's most iconic cities.

Although the acts on September 11 were committed in the name of Islam, Islam itself is a large and diverse religion, and it is a gross misrepresentation to associate a small number of fanatics with all of Islam. We think it's vital that Americans understand that the terrorist acts of 9/11 were carried out by radical extremists motivated by fear and hate. They do not represent the wide array of Muslims across the world. We have been appalled by all of these events as well as the support that these anti-Muslim extremists have received from the American public.

We can see signs of Islamaphobic views taking root in communities around university campuses across the state of Michigan. At Michigan State, a Quran was burned and left on the steps of an East Lansing mosque and pages from the book were spread in throughout the campus. Even here in Ann Arbor, some Muslim students have been the victims of hateful actions, including threatening phone calls. We need to act now.

We represent the University of Michigan student organization, JStreetUmich. We are the campus arm of the nonprofit, liberal advocacy organization, J Street, founded in April 2008. As members of JStreetU, we are dedicated to finding a peaceful and just solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. To achieve this, there has to be mutual respect on both sides. As a place considered holy by three major religions, peace in the Middle East cannot come without religious respect. Pervasive Islamaphobia is a major issue prohibiting a peaceful agreement between Israelis and Palestinians. If America—who is leading the peace talks at the moment—cannot bring its citizens to appreciate their Muslim brothers, then our nation has no place at the bargaining table. As an American organization, J Street wants the United States to be present in creating a solution. We need an end to Islamaphobia at home to forge peace abroad.

Starting right now, the University of Michigan's chapter of JStreetU is joining over 50 campuses across the country in a massive campaign to fight Islamaphobia across America. We will start a petition that aims at raising awareness on campus and become a presence in this important national conversation. This fight is important to us as students, to you as the campus community and to our nation. Most importantly, the fight against anti-Islam sentiments is important to the peace process. JStreet U calls upon the campus community to join this effort for unity in this time of division.

The Diaspora Jewish Community is no stranger to persecution by the citizenry of the countries in which we have settled. At one point seemed as if no place would allow us to live in peace with our non-Jewish neighbors. Still today there are dozens upon dozens of nations where Jews feel uncomfortable wearing a Yamika in public places and are constantly harassed. For years, Jews in the United States felt the same way. It is only fairly recently that we have found a home largely free of religious persecution. This is based around the American principle of Freedom of Religion, allowing any and all faiths to practice openly without worry about being persecuted. As a minority religion that was once in the same position as Muslims, we are bound morally to fight back against those that would mislabel our Muslim neighbors as terrorists in order to instill fear in the hearts of Americans.

Community leaders – religious and non-religious – we call on you to join together with us as a unified force to fight unfair stereotypes and actions. Everyone deserves to feel safe in his and her community. Joining our campaign will bring us one step closer to developing a safe and supportive community for all students.

The Ann Arbor community prides itself on its inclusiveness. JStreetU aims to make that ideal a reality. People will notice a unified movement to stop hateful stereotypes. Americans will take a moment and reconsider their abusive stance towards Muslims and recognize the need for respect for all. ■

Contact either of us if you are interested in joining the coalition or contact the Ann Arbor chapter of J Street Local at annarbor@jstreet.org.

Yonah Lieberman is the outreach chair of JStreetU (yonahl@umich.edu). Alex Levy is co-chair of JStreetU (aglevy@umich.edu).

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Calendar

October 2010

Friday 1

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Simchat Torah: BIC. Shaharit and Hallal at 8:30 a.m. Torah Reading and Hakafot at 10:30 a.m. Mincha and Ma'ariv Services at 7:30 p.m.

International Shul of Pancakes: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Lunch and Learn: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. Noon.

Simchat Torah: Chabad. Morning services with Torah dancing, followed by annual deli lunch; 9:45 a.m. Afternoon and evening services at 7 p.m.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot service and dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m., followed by shira and popsicle oneg.

Sukkat Shalom Service: TBE. For "tot grads" preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Middle School Service: TBE. In the chapel. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 2

Torah Study: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. 8:50 a.m.

Baby Shabbat: BIC. Honoring all babies born in the past year. 9:30 a.m.

Women's Retreat: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose and Rabbi Lisa Delson. A day of learning, a tallit making workshop, prayer, meditation and writing. 2 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 3

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Sukkah Deconstruction: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Hebrew in a Day: BIC. For adults. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

All Things Italian: Food, Art and ORT: Ann Arbor Chapter of ORT America. Opening brunch at the home of Patti Aaron in Ann Arbor. Members and prospective members are invited to feast on Italian dishes, engage with Jewish Venice thanks to art historian and professor Shelley Perlove, and learn about ORT Italy. Suggested donation is $5. Rides are available, if needed. For information or to RSVP, contact Gretta Spier at a2gretta@mac.com or phone 662-3250. 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Art Exhibit Opening Reception: JCC-Cultural Arts and Education. Enjoy works of Harold Cohen, who was trained in the Bauhaus tradition of art and design at the Institute of Design in Chicago. After his retirement as Dean of the School of Architecture and Environmental Design of the State University of New York in Buf alo, he turned to his love of printmaking. For information, contact mimiweisberg@jccfed.org or phone 971-0990. 3–5 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. 7:30 p.m.

Monday 4

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 5

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buf et Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide T rough Life's Tough Decisions:" Jewish Learning Institute. Fall semester course. Many people are faced with tough medical and ethical issues related to topics such as life support, genetic disorders, organ donation, and more. T is course is based on three premises: today's complex medical issues are fascinating, profound, and likely to kick up lively classroom discussion; Jewish wisdom has much to say about such matters; and the best time to deal with issues is now, rather than when under pressure. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *Tuesdays in October.*

T e Bible in Its Time: BIC. With Liz Fried. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 or at first class. 10 a.m.–noon. *Through October 26.*

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground f oor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. 7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday*.

Wednesday 6

Stories of American Opera: BIC. With Nathaniel Adam. Free for those over 65 through Washtenaw Community College. Register at 971-0990 9:30–11:30 p.m. *Through October 27.*

Mahjong: TBE Sisterhood. In members' homes. 1 p.m.

"Louis Brandeis: A Life": Jewish Historical Society of Michigan. Professor of Law Melvin I. Urofsky will deliver the Mary Einstein Shapero Memorial Lecture. Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph Road at 14 Mile Road in Bloomfield Hills. Reservations required. Phone 248-865-0628. 7 p.m.

Board Meeting: TBE. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 7

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. With Cantor Annie Rose. Noon.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buf et Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Birthdays and Presentation: BIC Seniors. Celebration for all with October birthdays. Family and friends invited for lunch and birthday cake at 12:30 p.m. Tour the synagogues of Eastern Europe with photographer Nancy Margolis at 1 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. Israeli dancing with Laura and Amnon Steiner from 7:30–10 p.m. Beginners and oldies at 7:30 p.m. Requests starting at 8:30 p.m. $5/admission. Students are free. For more information, visit www.a2rikud.org, email a2rikud@gmail.com or phone 395-4223. Also *October 14, 21 and 28.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 8

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Simchat Torah: BIC. Shaharit and Hallal at 8:30 a.m. Torah Reading and Hakafot at 10:30 a.m. Mincha and Ma'ariv Services at 7:30 p.m.

International Shul of Pancakes: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Lunch and Learn: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. Noon.

Simchat Torah: Chabad. Morning services with Torah dancing, followed by annual deli lunch; 9:45 a.m. Afternoon and evening services at 7 p.m.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot service and dinner beginning at 5:30 p.m., followed by shira and popsicle oneg.

Sukkat Shalom Service: TBE. For "tot grads" preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Middle School Service: TBE. In the chapel. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 9

Shabbat Services: BIC. Shabbat Limmud with Rabbi Dobrusin at 9:00 a.m. New Mini Minyan for K-2nd Graders at 11 a.m. Kehillat Shabbat for 3rd–5th Graders at 11 a.m. Tot Shabbat for preschoolers and their families at 11:15 a.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. Followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m., led by **Rabbi Delson and lay leaders.**

Red Cross Blood Drive and Pancake Breakfast: TBE Brotherhood. Register on line at <http://www.givelife.org> and enter sponsor code "tbe." 9 a.m.–3 p.m.

Rosh Chodesh Heshvan: BIC Women's League. Learn about and celebrate Rosh Chodesh. Refreshments and snacks provided. Attendees also welcome to stay from 5:30–6 p.m. for minyan. Members and non-League members alike are invited. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fullof ife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 4–5:30 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*
Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 10

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, plus an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Field Trip: TBE Rishonim. Youth Group trip to Wiard's Orchard. 11:30 a.m.

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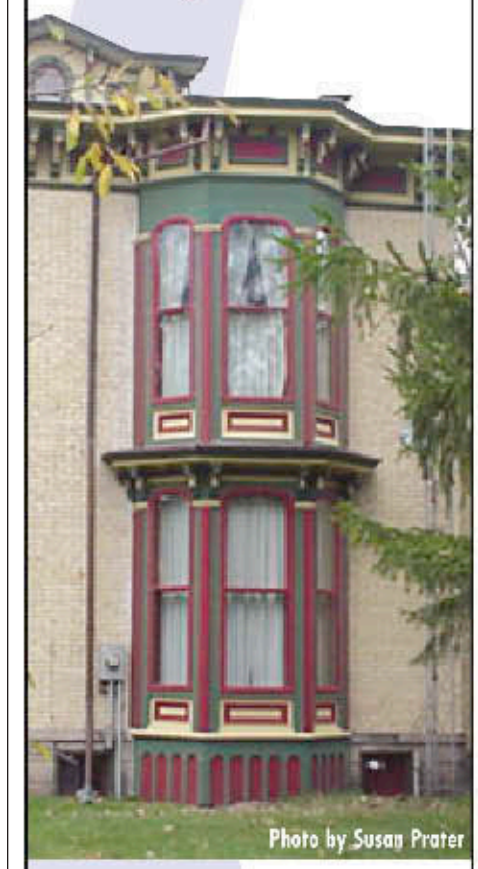
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Calendar

Calendar, continued from page 27

Apple Picking: TBE Ruach. Outing to Wassem's Orchard. 4 p.m.

Basic Judaism: TBE. Class at 7:45 p.m.

Lilith Salon: TBE Sisterhood. 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learn the deeper meanings of the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 11

"Taste of Tradition–The Shabbat Meal:" Jewish Women's Circle of Washtenaw County. Opening event of informal meetings of Jewish women. Light refreshments, conversation, and hands-on demonstrations of how to prepare traditional Ashkenazi and Sephardic Shabbat dishes. $10/suggested donation. Space is limited. To RSVP or for location information, contact Esther Goldstein at 995-3276 or email esther@jewmich.com. 7:30 p.m.

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Rose. Noon.

Hebrew Reading Crash Course: TBE. Contact Rabbit Lisa Delson for details at ldelson@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 12

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" Jewish Learning Institute. Fall semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *See October 5.*

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Wednesday 13

Stories of American Opera: BIC. With Nathaniel Adam. 9:30–11:30 p.m. *See October 6.*

Jewish Parents' Study Group: BIC Women's League. With in-depth study, discussion and support for parents, this group focuses on Jewish parenting, a Jewish home, Jewish social life for the whole family, and the connection between home, synagogue and religious school. Grandparents and non-League members also welcome. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fulloflife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Discussion and Support Group: BIC Women's League. 4:30 p.m.

Nutrition While You Shop: Hiller's Supermarket. Shopping for a healthier diet can be confusing, even for the most nutritionally-savvy individual. Led by tour leader, registered dietician Gail Posner, RD, MS., who will also be able to help participants with kosher questions. $20/person. For information and to register, visit www.gailposner.com or phone 248-855-4558. 7–8 p.m. at Hillers Supermarket, 3615 Washtenaw Avenue.

Men's Torah Study: TBE. With Roger Stutesman. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 14

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

Health Check and Presentation: JCC Seniors. At 12:30 p.m. a registered nurse from Care Response will take and record blood pressures and address questions. (This event is repeated the second Thursday of each month.) 1 p.m., Elaine Sims, director of the U-M Hospitals Gifts of Art program will discuss the relationship between health and the arts.

Book Talk on "The Color of Law: Ernie Goodman, Detroit, and the Struggle for Labor and Civil Rights:" Jewish Historical Society of Michigan. Also sponsored by the WSU Press, the Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs, the Maurice and Jane Sugar Law Center for Economic & Social Justice, and the Birmingham Temple. The authors, Steve Babson, Dave Riddle and David Elsila, will speak about Ernie Goodman's work and about this new book. At the Birmingham Temple, 28611 West 12 Mile Road, between Inkster and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Register by emailing name(s) to goodmanbooklaunch@gmail.com or phone 248-432-5517. 7 p.m.

Mahjong: TBE Sisterhood. 7:15 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. 7:30 p.m. *See October 7.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 15

Lunch and Learn: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. Noon.

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat: TBE. Tot Shabbat service and dinner, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Followed by shira and popsicle oneg.

Friday Night Lights: BIC. Kabbalat Shabbat Service followed by a family friendly Shabbat Dinner. 6 p.m.

Sukkat Shalom: TBE. Service for "tot grads," preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Friday evening services, *listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 16

Torah Study: TBE. With Rabi Levy. Drop-in discussion of weekly Torah portion. No preparation necessary. 8:50 a.m.

Morning Minyan: TBE. With Rabbi Delson and lay leaders. 9:30 a.m.

Orchard Visit: TBE Kadima: Youth Group meeting at Wiard's Orchard. 7 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *Listing at the end of the calendar.*

Continued on next page

Sunday 17

Bike Outing and New Member Brunch: TBE. 9 a.m.

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Beth Israel Café: BIC Women's League. Join in a relaxed, friendly café experience with games, Wi-Fi, socializing, refreshments including chocolate fondue, and hot and cold beverages. Children's area with crafts, coloring pages, books, games and more. Adult area with books, newspapers, crosswords and more. Also available are Jewish educational materials. Non-League members also welcome. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fullof ife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 9:30–Noon.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. *Every Sunday.*

Hike: TBE. Jewish Hikers of Michigan gathering at Barton Park, 1001 West Huron River Drive. For information, contact Eli Avney at 883-9522 or visit www.templebethemeth.org. 1 p.m.

Piano Concert: Kerrytown Concert House. Burton Greene, a musical force in the New York and European music scenes for the last five decades, has spent 20 years exploring klezmer, Sephardic, Balkan, and jazz music with the ensemble Klezmokum, and various jazz solo, trio, or quartet combinations. Tickets range from $5–$25. 7:30 p.m.

Basic Judaism: TBE. Class at 7:45 p.m.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 18

Torah Trop: With Cantor Rose. Noon.

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With Cantor Rose. **7 p.m.**

Hebrew Reading Crash Course: TBE. 7:30 p.m.

"V'hayey Olam Nata Bitochaynu: And You Have Planted Within Us Eternal Life:" What does this phrase, from the blessings for a Torah aliyah, really mean? Could these words be connected with a well-known legend? Join the first in a series of evenings as Rabbi Dobrusin shares his five favorite original Torah lessons. Refreshments will be served. 8 p.m.

Tuesday 19

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buf et Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Movie Tuesday: TBE. Showing of the film *Defiance,* directed by Edward Zwick. Tells the story of the Bielski brothers who fought for both the Soviet and Jewish partisans in Nazi-occupied Europe. 1 p.m.

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" Jewish Learning Institute. Fall semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *See October 5.*

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Joseph Unplugged: BIC. Led by Rabbi Dobrusin for High School Students. 6:30 p.m.

Seasons of Mussar I: BIC. 7:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Wednesday 20

Stories of American Opera: BIC. With Nathaniel Adam. 9:30–11:30 p.m. *See October 6.*

Story Hour: TBE. For preschoolers and their caregivers, with TBE Librarian Wendy Holden. 10 a.m.

Mahjong: TBE Sisterhood. 1 p.m.

Afternoon Delights Concert: JCC-Older Adults. Arie Lipsky and Friends, of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, will perform. Dessert at 1 p.m. Concert at 1:30 p.m. $8/tickets. For information, contact merrill@jfsannarbor.org or phone 971-0990.

Pizza Making and Movie: BIC Kadima. 5:45 p.m.

Baking and Cooking Discussion Group: BIC Women's League. Talk about perfecting various Jewish and holiday recipes. Rituals, traditions and blessings will be discussed and cooking and baking tips and recipes will be shared. Non-League members welcome. For information, contact Yvonne Wardle at fullof ife01@live.com or phone 945-8256. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Thursday 21

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buf et Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Question Session and Performance: JCC Seniors. Allison Pollock, JFS Geriatric Social Worker, will be available for questions and assistance at 12:30 p.m. Jewish Educator's Council-in-Residence Silvio Berlfein, an Israeli dance and movement teacher, will perform at 1 p.m.

Caregiver Conversations: JCC-Older Adults. This month's topic is "The Dance of Caregiving: Balancing Support, Respect and Autonomy." A short film *The Shower* will be shown, showing the "dance" of give-and-take in adult child-parent caregiving relationship, followed by discussion of ways the "dances" can be more graceful. For information, contact abbie@jfsannarbor.org or phone 769-0209. 6:30–8 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. 7:30 p.m. *See October 7.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 22

Lunch and Learn: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. Noon.

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Happy Hour and Shabbat Dinner: TBE TBT. Twenties and Thirties gathering at Grizzly Peak, 120 West Washington. 5 p.m.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Begins at 5:30 p.m. Dinner followed by shira and popsicle oneg.

Sukkat Shalom Service: TBE. For "tot grads," preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Shabbaton Lock-In: BIC. At Garfunkel Schteingart Activities Center for 6th Graders.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 23

Torah Study: TBE. Led by Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m., followed by Morning Minyan at 9:30 a.m. with Rabbi Delson and lay leaders.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. With Rabbi Dobrusin. 9 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. For preschoolers and their families. Interactive, fun Shabbat experience for youngest members is led on alternating weeks by Peretz Hirshbein and Jessica Kander. 11:15 a.m.

Tailgate Kiddush: BIC. Noon.

Israeli Dance Workshop: JCC. With instructor Silvo Berlfein. All experience levels welcome. 7:30–10 p.m.

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services; *listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 24

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Series: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Dinner and Concert: TBE. Ragtime and Ravioli Dinner and Concert featuring the River Raisin Ragtime Ensemble. Dinner at 5 p.m. Concert at 6 p.m. For details, visit www.templebethemeth.org.

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Monday 25

English as a Second Language Daily Classes: JFS. Ongoing class from 9 a.m.–noon on Mondays–Fridays and 1–3 p.m. on Mondays–Thursdays at Jewish Family Services, 2245 South State Street. For more information, contact JFS at 769-0209 or email andre@jfsannarbor.org. *Ongoing.*

Torah Trop: TBE. With Cantor Rose. Noon.

Beit Café Adult Education Night: TBE. Choose two of four educational offerings with a coffee and nosh in between. 7 p.m.

Tuesday 26

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 11 a.m., $4/session or $10/3 sessions; $3 Homemade Dairy Buffet Lunch, noon; Games and activities including mahjong, quilting, art projects and card games. 1 p.m. Wii sports including bowling, tennis, golf and baseball. No experience necessary. 1 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

"Medicine and Morals: Your Jewish Guide Through Life's Tough Decisions:" Jewish Learning Institute. Fall semester course. 9:30–11 a.m. at Chabad House and 7:30–9 p.m. at the JCC. *See October 5.*

Yidish Tish (Yiddish Conversational Group): All ages and levels welcome including UM and non-UM participants. 1:30 p.m. at Beanster's Café, ground floor of UM Michigan League. For information, call 936-2367.

Joseph Unplugged: BIC. Led by Rabbi Dobrusin for High School Students. 6:30 p.m.

Weekly Torah Portion—for Women: Chabad. Reading the Bible may be easy, but understanding it is no simple matter. Study the text in the original, together with the classical commentaries. 8:30 p.m. *Every Tuesday.*

Wednesday 27

Stories of American Opera: BIC. With Nathaniel Adam. 9:30–11:30 p.m. *See October 6.*

Busy Women's Dinner: TBE Sisterhood. Macaroni Grill Restaurant. 6 p.m.

Men's Torah Study: TBE. With Roger Stutesman. 7:30 p.m.

Thursday 28

Prayer, Weekly Torah Reading and Jewish Philosophy–for Women: Chabad. 9 a.m. at the JCC.

SPICE of LIFE: JCC Seniors. Energy Exercise with Maria Farquhar, 10 a.m., $4 or 3/$10; Current Events with Heather Dombey, a Jewish perspective on this week's news, 11 a.m.; $3 Homemade Dairy Buf et Lunch, noon; Special events and guest presentations, 1 p.m.; Literary Group with Sidney Warschausky at 2:15 p.m. Call Merrill Poliner at 971-0990 for name of current book.

Discussion: JCC Seniors. Stephanie Murray, of annarbor.com, will discuss the upcoming local, state and national elections. 1 p.m.

Mahjong: TBE Sisterhood. 7:15 p.m.

Israeli Dancing: JCC. 7:30 p.m. *See October 7.*

Talmud Study Group–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study of the original Talmud tractate Taanit chapter 2. 8 p.m. *Every Thursday.*

Friday 29

Lunch and Learn: TBE. With Rabbi Levy. Noon.

Weekly Yiddish Reading Group: JCC Seniors. Meets at the JCC. 1:30 p.m. Call Ray Juni at 761-2765 for information.

Tot Shabbat and Dinner: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner, then shira and popsicle oneg.

Sukkat Shalom: TBE. Service for "tot grads," preceded by dinner. 6:30 p.m.

Interfaith Perspective Series: BIC. "From Baptist to Bridge Builder," featuring George Lambrides, Executive Director of the Interfaith Round Table. 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Services: TBE. With all TBE Choirs. 7:30 p.m.

Friday evening services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Saturday 30

Mystical Insights to the Torah–for Women: Chabad. Learn more about the mystical dimensions of the Torah: Chabad. 1 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Laws of Shabbat–Jewish Ethics: Chabad. Study group code of law for Shabbat, and study of Jewish Ethics, 1/2 hour before sundown. *Every Saturday.*

Shabbat services: *See listing at the end of the calendar.*

Sunday 31

Reading Hebrew through the Prayer Book–for Women: Chabad. An in-depth study into the prayer book, an overview of the weekly Torah reading, with Jewish philosophy. 9:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidism and open your eyes to the beauty of Judaism. 10:30 a.m. at Chabad House. *Every Sunday.*

Jewish Concepts–for Women: Chabad. Learning the deeper meanings to the Jewish way of life. 8 p.m. *Every Sunday.*

Continued on page 30

Calendar

Calendar, continued from page 29

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call 994-9258 in advance to confirm time. **Shabbat Service: BIC.** 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 5:30 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Sukkat Shalom service at 6:30 p.m. for "tot grads," preceded by dinner. Shira at 6:30 p.m. Popsicle oneg for Tot and Sukkah Shalom families at 7 p.m. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah. 6:15 p.m. at the JCC the last Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Tot Shabbat with optional kid's pizza dinner at 6 p.m. All are welcome to attend. For information, call 913-9705, email info@aarecon.org or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candle-lighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. Morning childcare from 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Havurah. Discussion-based format with topics changing monthly. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study with Rabbi Levy at 8:50 a.m. Morning Minyan with Rabbi Delson and lay leaders at 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call 995-3276 in advance.

Phone numbers and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Havurah (AARH)
P.O. Box 7451, Ann Arbor 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street 995-3276

EMU Hillel
965 Washtenaw Ave., Ypsilanti 482-0456

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive 975-9872

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street 769-0500

Michael Oran, continued from page 25

way to impair his credibility."

Notably, Oren described the negotiations as among three entities—Israel, the Palestinian Authority and the United States. And he described the moratorium in terms of negotiations with the United States.

"We're discussing this with the administration very intensely, we're looking for ways to get around the hurdle," he said.

Oren also anticipated resistance from the American Jewish right.

"The moratorium was very unpopular with the American Jewish right," he said. "I anticipate further, if we move down this road toward an agreement with the Palestinians, that's just going to begin."

Oren said his tensions with J Street were overblown and are in any case behind them. He said he communicates regularly with the organization's director, Jeremy Ben-Ami.

"Does everything they do please me? They do not," Oren said, referring to J Street's criticism of both Israel and Hamas in the 2009 Gaza war. He hastened to add that "We understand that the American Jewish community is politically pluralistic, but the tent of pro-Israel organizations is a very big tent, is very inclusive."

Including J Street in a "pro-Israel" tent is bound to be jarring to some ears, particularly among some centrist and right-wing pro-Israel groups that have endeavored to describe the organization as representing the interests of a detached U.S. Jewish minority, if not an anti-Israel agenda.

Oren clearly sees himself, however, as a bridge between Israel and the Jewish Diaspora. He noted his role in interim success having to do with women who want to worship equally at the Western Wall and in concerns about a Knesset bill that would have negated successes in getting Israel to recognize Reform and Conservative conversions.

In the former case, he noted that the Prime Minister's Office is now monitoring the situation and ensuring that women—while still unable to hold services at the Wall—have easy access to a nearby alternative site.

In the matter of conversions, Oren noted that the matter has been put on hold for six months while a commission examines how to reconcile overseas conversions with the demand among Israelis from the former Soviet Union who are demanding a streamlined Israeli process.

Oren finished the interview on a hopeful note.

"It's going to be a year of challenges on many levels, but it's a year of great opportunities and hope, of peace, security of Israelis and our Palestnian neighbors," he said. "And a year of continued support, understanding and love between Israel and Jewish communities." ■

The Internet

Digital Jewish calendars

By Mark Mietkiewicz

When I was growing up, one of the sure signs of that Rosh Hashanah was on the way was the stack of fresh calendars piled on the counter at the bakery. Flip through the months and you were bound to see a new shot of sunrise over Masada or perhaps sunset at the Kotel. You can still get a calendar the old fashioned way by walking into your nearest bakery or Judaica store. Or you can do it the easy way... via the Web.

I highly recommend the web-based Hebcal Interactive Jewish Calendar. Plug in the name of your city and customize whether you'd like the Hebrew date, holidays or that week's Torah portion to appear. Click and you have a personalized calendar. And if your travels take you off the beaten path, just type in the longitude and latitude of your destination and presto, instant Jewish calendar for Norway or Nepal. [http://bit.ly/jcal01]

The Ezras Torah foundation is well known for its information-packed wall and pocket calendars. That calendar is now available online and as a download. The real benefit of this calendar is the detailed explanation about major holiday-related customs for the coming year and specific notes about possible exceptions. For example, this year when the Yom Kippur falls on Shabbat, we are reminded not to recite the prayer Avinu Malkeinu. (Donation requested.) [http://bit.ly/jcal02]

Andrew Tannenbaum's 50 Year Yahrzeit Calendar Calculator does exactly what it promises. Plug in a date (using either the Jewish or civil calendar) and the page generates a list which tells you when the yahrzeit will fall. Tannenbaum notes that you can also use the program to generate a list of your Jewish birthday for the next 50 years but notes "rules for determination of bar mitzvah dates are different from yahrzeit dates in some cases." [http://bit.ly/jcal03]

Users of Firefox know about the thousands of plug-ins that allow you to customize the browser to your liking. Thanks to the Hebrew Calendar plug-in, today's Jewish date is always but a glance away at the bottom right of my browser. Works for both Macs and PCs. [http://bit.ly/jcal05]

As you can see, there are many sites that will allow you to convert between the Jewish and civil (Gregorian) calendars. But what if you need to know when this year's first day of Rosh Hashanah falls on the Muslim, Persian or Mayan calendars? No worries. Punch in the date at this site and you get your answers:

- *Muslim: 30 Ramadan 1431*
- *Persian: 18 Shahrivar 1389*
- *Mayan: 12.19.17.12.6 19 Mol 2 Cimi [http://bit.ly/jcal04]*

Rather than looking everything up on the web, you may want a stand-alone calendar program. Kaluach3 for Windows is excellent (and free). It lets you look up birthdays and yahrzeits and can be set for hundreds of cities around the world. [http://bit.ly/jcal06] If you own a copy of Outlook, recent versions allows display of many alternate calendars including Hebrew. The Microsoft site explains how you can make use of it. [http://bit.ly/jcal13] Check out the great Tichnut page for a summary of other Jewish calendar programs – some free, some not – that you can download. [http://bit.ly/jcal12]

And let's not forget our handhelds. iLuach for iPhone features a perpetual Hebrew calendar, candle lighting times, the complete text of the Tanach and more. [http://bit.ly/jcal08] Siddur & Zmanim for iPhone combines weekday prayer book with Jewish calendar functionality. [http://bit.ly/jcal09]

Blackberry users can install Ronen Lalevy's Jewish Hebrew Calendar. [http://bit.ly/jcal14] As for the Palm, I have been using Penticon's Luach for years. I have always been impressed with its smooth integration with the Palm's built-in calendar. [http://bit.ly/jcal11] Note: There are many Blackberry and Palm models so the above apps may not work on all of them.

Though the programs I've mentioned do a fine job of calculating dates, even the Internet still can't create a free glossy calendar that comes with lovely photos of sunrise over Masada or sunset at the Kotel. Maybe that bakery shop calendar isn't threatened, yet. ■

Mark Mietkiewicz is a Toronto-based Internet producer who writes, lectures, and teaches about the Jewish Internet. He can be reached at highway@rogers.com.

Shabbat Candlelighting

October 3	4:40 p.m.	October 24	4:44 p.m
October 10	4:40 p.m	October 31	4:49 p.m.
October 17	4:41 p.m		

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Vitals

Mazel tov

Robin Galler on her bat mitzvah, September 4.
Stephen Brandell on his bar mitzvah, September 11.
Tamar Nemeth on her bat mitzvah, September 25.
Michaela Kass on her bat mitzvah, September 25.
Sheri and Allyn Kantor, on the birth of their grandson, Joseph Stephen Holtzman, son of Stephanie Kantor Holtzman and Jeff Holtzman, June 25.
Johanna and Marc Bleckman on the birth of their son, Eben Tobias Bleckman, July 20.
Robert Silbergleit and Catherine Zudak, on the birth of their son, Jay Zachariah Silbergleit, July 30.
Paul Straka and Amy Janowicz on the birth of their daughter, Anna Janowicz Straka, granddaughter of Sylvia and Sherman Funk, August 6
Elliot Eisenberg on the marriage of his son, Charles, to Leah Myers.

Condolences

Barb Merlos on the death of her mother, Sherrel Shoher, June 25.
Lynn Heumann on the death of her mother, Judith Desenberg, July 1.
Mitchell Rycus on the death of his sister, Adele Schechter.
Hannah Smotrich on the death of her father, David Smotrich.
Gary Freed on the death of his mother, Shirley Freed.
Lois Levinson on the death of her husband, Harold Levinson.

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Photo corrections

In the September *Washtenaw Jewish News,* photos of two of the new Hebrew Day School staff members were incorrectly identified. Here are the corrected photos.

Nina Lavi

Kelly Overend

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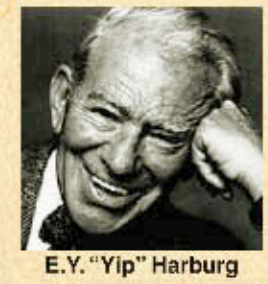
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